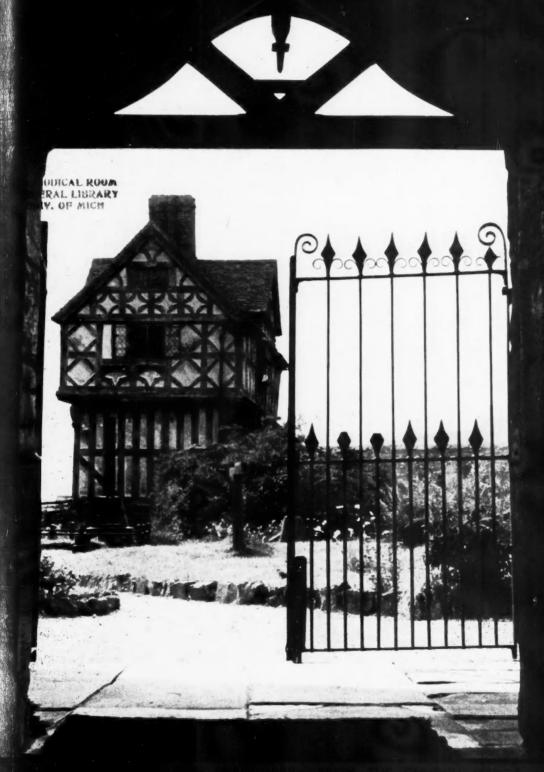
COUNTRY LIFE



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Vol. XCIV. No. 2448.

DECEMBER 17, 1943

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PRETTY OLD-FASHIONED PLEASURE AND KITCHEN GARDENS (Acres)

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

PRICE £5,50

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Main line station 1½ miles.

Partial central heating, Fitted basins (h. some rooms. STABLING. GARAGE. COTTAGE. ATTRACTIVE GARDENS and GROUNDS, with lawns. orchard, kitchen garden, paddocks, etc. IN ALL 21

Owner's Agents: Winkworth & Co., 48, Curzon Street, London, W.1.

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

SUFFOLK-CAMBRIDGESHIRE BORDERS

AN ATTRACTIVE GEORGIAN RESIDENCE IN A MARKET TOWN yet with lovely country views.

Within five minutes of shops, churches, and about half a mile from Station.



The house is of brick with pantiled roof, partly creeper-clad and stands on gravel soil.

Square hall with gallery. 3 reception, 8 bedrooms, bathroom, maids' sitting-room, domestic offices.
All main services. Telephone.
Brick garage. Loose box.

Pleasant ga.den of about half an acre on two levels and laid out with lawns, herbaceous borders, flower beds, vegetable garden.

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BANBURY (a few miles from)

odernised House situated in a village 600 ft. above sea level with south aspect.

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About 31/2 ACRES. PRICE £4,000

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Adjoining the shores of the Menai Straits.

Occupying a secluded position close to station. Residence built of brick with slate roof and commanding attractive views. 3 reception rooms, 9 bedrooms, bathroom. Companies' electric light, gas and water. Telephone. Main drain the garden includes kitchen garden and wood running down to the shore.

IN ALL ABOUT 1½ ACRES

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SURREY. BOX HILL 3 MILES

About 1 mile from Station with Electric Service to Town in about 40



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AN ARCHTECT DESIGNED
CHARACTER HOUSE, beautifully appointed and enjoying
magnificent views, built of mellowed brick with half timbering and
tiled roof. The labour-saving
accommodation comprises: Lounge
hall .cloak-room, 2 reception, maids'
sitting room, 5 bed, 2 bathrooms.
Central heating throughout.
All main services.
Double garage with room over.
Stable. Artistic garden with ornamental pool, lawns, orchard.
kitchen garden, etc.

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FOR SALE FREEHOLD
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(A FURTHER 700 ACRES OF SHOOTING RENTED)

A GENTLEMAN'S COMFORTABLE MEDIUM-SIZED HOUSE

with 6 principal bedrooms (10 in all). Electric light, central heating, hot and cold running water in bedrooms.

1,105 Acres of Agricultural Land, 387 Acres of Woodlands. 5 COTTAGES.

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h ground with beautiful views. Within ½ mile of Oxted Station and shops. standing on high gr

8 bedrooms, dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms. All main services. Tennis lawn. Garage for 3. ABOUT 3/4 ACRE PRICE FREEHOLD ONLY £4,150

(Subject to requisition by the War Department.)

ATTRACTIVE FREEHOLD RESIDENCE

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ABOUT 1% ACRES

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amidst lovely wooded country. Near bus route and just over a mile to the town and main line station. Good outlook. Delightful situati

CHARMING SMALL HOUSE WITH UNUSUAL FEATURES



Fine lounge (25 ft. by 15 ft.) 2 other reception rooms, principal bedroom with sunken bath, 3 other bedrooms and another bathroom, compact offices.

Double garage Main electricity, gas and water Central heating.

Beautifully timbered Grounds, easy to maintain, with terrace, lawns, swimming pool, orna-mental trees and shrubs, just under

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PRICE FREEHOLD £8,000
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SPECIAL LITTLE PLACE
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ATTRACTIVE WELL-BUILT HOUSE

erected eight years ago under the Supervision of an Architect, no expense being spared to make it convenient and labour-saving.

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CHARMING GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

(STONE BUILT WITH SLATE ROOF)

5 reception rooms, 10 bedrooms, bathroom, excellent domestic offices.

All main services

The Grounds are attractively displayed and include tennis and other lawns, flower garden.

in all about

2 ACRES



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Large hall, 3 reception rooms, 8 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Maids' sitting room All main services.

STABLING. GARAGE WITH ROOMS OVER. TIMBERED GROUNDS OF ABOUT

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The undernoted well-known Estates and Grouse Moors are offered for sale.

MOY HALL. This is the principal Estate and extends to about 11,000 acres in all, of which the biggest proportion is grouse moor, the remainder being arable and grazing. The Moy Hall grouse moors are famous for their heavy bags and good sport in general. Moy Hall is a commodious mansion conveniently situated to Moy Station on the direct L.M. & S. Railway line to Perth.

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The Estates are all very attractive and, apart from their sporting value, contain good farming land which is well let. Full particulars of the Estates, bags, etc., can be had on application to Messrs. Anderson Shaw and Gilbert, Solicitors, Inverness.

FOR SALE

HANTS, BEAULIEU. Freehold with possession, well-built, modern house, Tudor style. 3 reception, 7-8 bedrooms, 3 bath, maids' room. 2 Acres. Central heating and radiators throughout, lavatory basins (h/c) in all bedrooms. Own electric light, water. Modern drainage. Cottage, I reception, 3 bed, bathroom, kitchen. Garage for 4 cars.—BOX 6829 Box 682.

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Close to main line station and only 40 miles from London. An exceptionally fine specimen of Early Tudor architecture. One of the finest houses of its period in Home Counties. 3 reception rooms, 6 principal bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Beautiful old-world grounds. Garages and stabling, 3 Tudor cottages. In splendid condition throughout. All main services. With or without Farmery adjoining 61 acres. Price freehold for whole, £15,000. Possession by arrangement. Particulars and photograph from Sole Agents: Messrs. HATCH & WATERMAN, F.A.I., Tenterden, Kent.

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WANTED

COUNTRY HOUSE or Cottage wanted, nicely furnished. Land or large garden. 4-5 bedrooms. Radius 50 miles London.— Box 666.

country Property Owners wishing to sell quickly, and to take advantage of present high prices obtainable, should communicate with Bentall, Horsley & Baldry, 194, Brompton Road, S.W.3, who have specialised exclusively in selling country houses for half a century, and have a waiting list of some hundreds of buyers for country properties, in all parts of England, from £2,000 to £15,000. All instructions handled personally by one of the partners. No preliminary fees. "Phone Ken. 0152 or send details with photographs if possible.

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ORIGINALLY AN EARLY TUDOR "YEOMAN'S HALL" OF THE LATE XVth CENTURY.
THOROUGHLY RENOVATED AND MODERNISED. 2 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, bathroom. Electric light. Modern drainage. Garage. Picturesque grounds with tennis court and well-stocked orchard. About 4 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD. Particulars from: CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W.1. (16,404)

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REALLY UNIQUE CHARACTER COTTAGE

with quaint thatched roof. Long private drive approach. Entirely on two floors, Period interior. Perfect order; ready to occupy.

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HALF AN ACRE

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Local tradesmen deliver supplies. IMMEDIATE POSSESSION. Hunting and golf. Sole Agents: Messrs. RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above.

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CLEVERLY DESIGNED HOUSE, erected only
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\$3,000. Ideal for business man. POSSESSION
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CHORLEY WOOD AND CHALFONT, within half a mile of station. Just over half-an-hour from Baker Street and Marylebone. UNUSUALLY ATTRACTIVE HOUSE on high ground; entirely on two floors, 4 reception, 5 bedrooms, bathroom. All main services. Garage (3). GARDENS A CHARMING FEATURE. In all 2 ACRES. FREEHOLD £5,750. Possession February. Excellent golf close at hand.

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UP-TO-DATE RESIDENTIAL DAIRY FARM of 200 UP TO 600 ACRES required in any county in the West or South-West of England. Medium-sized house with modern convenience essential. PRICE UP TO \$25,000 for the right place.

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UP TO £15,000 will be paid for a DAIRY FARM OF 150-300 ACRES in SUSSEX, KENT, BUCKS, BERKS, OXON, or WILTS. Nice medium house required. "LJA." c/o WOODCOCKS, 30, St. George Street, W.1.

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GLORIOUS SCENERY. GENTLEMAN'S CHOICE
RESIDENTIAL FARM, 77½ ACRES (32 Arable, rest
rich, well-watered pasture). Attractive stone residence
with beautiful views in pretty, well-timbered gardens
(3 reception, 7 bedrooms, bath (h. & c.), etc.); ample
buildings; 2 cottages. FREEHOLD £7,500. A very
choice residential money-making concern. Just inspecty
choice residential money-making concern. Just inspecty
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MILE OF TROUT FISHING ON BOTH BANKS
SOUTH DEVON. Choice little estate, 39 ACRES.
Stone house, 8 bedrooms (6 with basins, h. & c.)
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Beautiful
gardens. 3 cottages. Small farmery.
FREEHOLD
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BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY HOME WITH ABOUT

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BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY HOME WITH ABOUT £7,000 PER ANNUM GROSS INCOME Amid lovely unspoilt country, yet under 30 miles from London GENTLEMAN'S CHOICE RESIDENTIAL DAIRY AND STOCK FARM. 420 ACRES. Delightfully situated residence in beautiful secluded position with all modern conveniences (3 bathrooms, main electricity, etc.). Exceptional buildings including cowsheds for 54 passed for Attested herd; 5 cottages. FREEHOLD £25,000, including crops, fixed machinery, etc. The valuable pedigree Attested herd, dead stock and equipment at £10,000. Unique opportunity. WOODCOCKS, 30, St. George St., W.I.

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ON THE BANKS OF THE RIVER TAMAR Solmon fishing River Tavy (2 miles)
Solmon fishing River Tavy (2 miles)
SOUTH DEVON. 12 miles Plymouth, 1 mile station.
COUNTRY HOUSE OF CHARACTER, 3-4
reception, 9 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and separate wing.
Gardens and grounds 18 ACRES. Lodge. Part let.
Possession house and 6 acres by arrangement. FREEHOLD
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OF CONSIDERABLE CHARACTER, MODERNISED AND IN BEAUTIFUL ORDER,

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LODGE AND 10 COTTAGES. ARMHOUSES with ample buildings to each farm,

FINE OLD RESIDENCE CONTAINS: 4 sitting 10, 10 bedrooms and dressing rooms and 4 bathrooms. Main electricity. Central heating.

CHARMING GARDENS AND GROUNDS. T IS BEAUTIFUL SMALL ESTATE IS FOR SALE

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Just over 25 miles south of London.

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One of the finest residential properties at present available in the

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GEORGIAN COUNTRY RESIDENCE

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Hall and 4 sitting rooms (all large and lofty), 17 bed and dressing rooms (arranged in suites), 7 bathrooms. Main electricity. Central heating.

STABLING FOR 16 HORSES, GARAGE FOR 6 CARS. 4 COTTAGES.

61 ACRES

FOR SALE AT A MOST REASONABLE PRICE

by the Sole Agents: James STYLES & WHITLOCE, 44, St. James's Place, London, S.W.I, who have inspected and thoroughly recommend the property. (L.R. 20,534.)

4304

OSBORN & MERCER

MEMBERS OF THE CHARTERED SURVEYORS' AND AUCTIONEERS' INSTITUTES

28b, ALBEMARLE ST., PICCADILLY, W.1

HANTS

Splendidly situate with delightful views over the River Hamble and Southampton Water

TO BE SOLD

An ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE in the late Georgian style containing hall, 3 reception, 10 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms.

Main Electricity. Central Heating. Excellent Water Supply.

Ample Outbuildings 2 Cottages.

Delightful well-timbered gardens, orchards, walled kitchen garden, pasture and arable, in all OVER 34 ACRES

Inspected and recommended by OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17,450)

ON OUTSKIRTS OF WILTSHIRE VILLAGE

In a quiet position, approached by a drive over 100 yards in length from a by-road and near to a bus route.

AN ATTRACTIVE GEORGIAN HOUSE

On 2 floors only and in excellent order. Hal 2 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, well-equipped bathroom Mains services. Central heating.

2 Garages. Extensive Stabling. Outbuildings, Delightful matured gardens, walled kitchen garden, orchard, paddock, etc., in all

ABOUT 5 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. f(M.2376) READING AND NEWBURY

Situate right in the heart of beautiful country near the Downs A DELIGHTFUL HOUSE OF CHARACTER

with a modern addition. principally Tudor

Square hall, 2 large and 3 small reception rooms, 9 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms.

Main Services. Central Heating.
Garage. Large barn. Useful outbuildings. Fine modernised Cottage or secondary Residence, 3 other Cottages (2 let)

Pleasure gardens, tennis lawn, vegetable garden, large paddock, larch wood, etc., in all ABOUT 10 ACRES FOR SALE FREEHOLD

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OXON

In a beautiful position on high ground with really delightful views. AN ATTRACTIVE MODERN HOUSE

Standing in well-timbered gardens and grounds With hall, 3-4 reception, 6 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 by throoms.

Co.'s electric light and power. Central heating.

Garage and useful Outbuildings.

Lawns, hard tennis court, well-stocked fruit and vegetable garden, etc. In all about 2 ACRES

For Sale at Greatly Reduced Price

Full details from: OSBORN & MERCER, as above.
(17,349)

BORDERS OF EPPING FOREST

In a choice position on high ground commanding attensive views over beautifully wooded undulating country.

A WELL-BUILT MODERN HOUSE

erected under the supervision of a well-krown architect.

With lounge hall, 4 reception rocms, sun lounge, 8 hed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms.

Main Services. 2 Garages. Stabling to 5.

Tastefully laid-out gardens, tennis lawn, orchard, kitchen garden, woodland, etc., in all

ABOUT 31/2 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

NOTE: A near-by cottage could be purchased if required Full details from OSBORN & MERCER, as above (17,452

nor 1553 (4 lines)

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

25, MOUNT ST., GROSVENOR SQ., W.1

4 reception rooms, 13 bed and dressing rooms, 2 baths. Well arranged offices with servant's room. Main electric light, central heating, modern drainage.

Main water being 2 Cottages. Garages Stabling.

Particularly attrac-tive grounds.

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OXON, FOR SALE Well above river level.



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7 bed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms, 2-3 reception rooms. Septic tank drainage. Companies'electric light

Central heating, Garage,

Excellent outbuildings.

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FOR SALE AT REDUCED PRICE
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IN ALL ABOUT 14½ ACRES FURTHER LAND UP TO 140 ACRES AVAILABLE. FOR SALE FREEHOLD

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SUSSEX—NEAR EAST GRINSTEAD (ccessible to 3 main line stations. 40-50 minutes London



perfect georgian House of character approached by long private drive. 3 large reception rooms, 9 bedrooms (fitted basins), 3 bathrooms. Main services. Central heating. Garage. Cottage (let). Chauffeur's flat. Very fine parklike land, lawns, tennis court. Orehard and paddocks. 55 ACRES. PRICE FREEHOLD £11,500 Early possession. Further land and secondary residence can be purchased.—Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

BETWEEN GODSTONE & LIMPSFIELD 23 miles London with expresses to London.



CHARMING TUDOR-STYLE MODERN HOUSE OF CHARACTER. 2 reception, 5 bedrooms (fitted basins), 2 bathrooms. Main services. Garage. Exquisite reception, 5 bedrooms (fitted services. Garage. Exquisite nd vegetables. THREE FREEHOLD FOR SALE Dasins), 2 Dathrooms. Main services. Garage. Exquisite small garden with fruit and vegetables. THREE QUARTERS OF AN ACRE. FREEHOLD FOR SALE AT TEMPTING PRICE.—Agents: F. L. MERCER AND Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.J. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481. AN OLD-WORLD COTTAGE
POST-WAR POSSESSION
400 ft. up, in a lovely part of Hampshire, between Newbury
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THE COTTAGE stands on a terrace overhunclematis and honeysuckle, and contains dining room, 4 bedrooms (fitted basins), bathroom electric light and power. Well stocked garden TQUARTERS OF AN ACRE and thatched FREEHOLD \$2,000. Possession two month end of European War.—Agents: F. L. MERCER Sackville House, 40, Piceadilly, W.1. (Entrance Stackville House, 40, Piceadilly, W.1. (Entrance Stackville House, 40, Piceadilly, W.1. (Entrance Stackville Street.)

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RARELY OFFERED IN LOVELY SUSSEX

GENTLEMAN'S SMALL RESIDENTIAL FARM NEAR 30 ACRES

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Picturesque. 400 years old farmhouse; oak beams, open fireplaces, etc. 3 reception, 5 bedrooms, bath. Main water. Co.'s electric light.

Good farm buildings. Lovely old barn.

Modern accredited cowhouse.

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GLOUCESTER
Very fine position.

GENTLEMAN'S FIRST-CLASS
DAIRY AND STOCK FARM
MOST BEAUTIFUL ELIZABETHAN
BLACK AND WHITE RESIDENCE
Electricity. Unfailing water supply,
Modern drainage. "Aga" and every
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Old tithe barn.

132 ACRES WELL WATERED BY
STREAMS AND PONDS
FOR SALE. FREEHOLD WITH
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PICTURESQUE MANOR
DENCE, containing 3 reception rooms, bath, with main electric water. 3 cottages with main good buildings and 110 ACRES rich well-watered grass. Several stud boxes. Unique estate such as obtainable in the greatly favoured. RESI-

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in NUMEROUS LOTS
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AT THE WOODSIDE HOTEL, BIRKENHEAD, on THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 1944, at 1.30 p.m.



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FOR SALE WITH EARLY VACANT POSSESSION

BUCKS—CHILTERNS, 600 ft. up between Amersham and Great Missenden, in lovely country UNIQUE MODERN HOUSE, 2 large reception rooms, loggia, 3 double bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms and maid's room. Main electric light. Central heating. Garage. GARDEN 2 ACRES with orchard and hard tennis court. FREEHOLD 25,780. (41,487)

EAST DORSET. Borders of Blackmore Vale with wide views of River Stour-MODERNISED STONE-BUILT RECTORY with carriage drive, hall, 3 reception, 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 maids' rooms, main electric light, central heating, Esse cooker. Stables and grazy. 24, ACRES of charming gardens, greenhouses. 3-roomed thatched cottage. FREEHOLD £7,000. (61,385)

GLOUCESTERSHIRE, S.W., within 1 mile of G.W.R. main line, lovely old stone TUDOR FARMHOUSE of character, 4 reception with open stone fireplaces, 10 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, main electric light. Central heating. Garage. Walled gardens. Fine old stone barn and other farm buildings. 25 ACRES, of which 21 acres are let. FREEHOLD £9,000. (73,288)

KENT-SUSSEX SORDERS, overlooking Ashdown Forest, just over an hour by train from London, ORIGINAL TUDOR HOUSE with old oak beams and open fireplaces, 3 reception, 8 bedrooms (fitted basins), 4 bathrooms. Main water and electricity. Central heating. Garage. Gardens of 1½ acres. Tennis lawn and paddock, in all 7½ ACRES. £12,000. (32,344)

WEST KENT. CHARMING QUEEN ANNE HOUSE in finely timbered grounds outside ancient Market Town. 4 reception, 10 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Main water and electricity. Central heating. Garage, stabling. Cottage, Old-world partly walled garden, orchard and paddock about 12 ACRES. FREEHOLD \$8,000. (32,345)

WEST SURREY, NEAR FARNHAM. Facing Hankley Common Golf Course. MODERN HOUSE built just before the war. Hall, 3 reception, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, malds' sitting-room. Main water and electricity. Central heating, independent hot-water boiler. D buble garage. Natural heath grounds of about 1 ACRE, small vegetable garden. FREEHOLD £4,800. (22,259)

HILLS OUTSIDE CHELTENHAM (lovely views). 3 reception, 8 bed, 4 bath.

Main electricity and water. Complete central heating. Splendid range of buildings and stables. 4 ACRES. £6,500 FREEHOLD. (73,290)

WEST SUSSEX NEAR MIDHURST. House approached by ½-mile carriage drive with lovely views of Blackdown Hill. 4 reception, 4 bedrccms, 2 dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 servants' rooms. Electric light. Central heating. Garage for 3. 2 cottages. Garden, hard tennis court. 75 ACRES, of which 50 acres are woodland. PRICE £8,000. (32,736)

FOR SALE WITH POSSESSION AFTER THE WAR

ET ABOVE SEA LEVEL ON THE CHILTERNS. MODERN RESISENCE IN GEORGIAN STYLE, backed by beechwoods and with extensive to South. Entrance Lodge and carriage drive, 4 reception, billiards, 6 best secondary and servants' bedrooms, 5 bathrooms. Electric light. Central Jaraging, chauffeur's house. Extensive gardens and grounds, orchard, and paddock in all about 27 ACRES. 'Bus service passes entrance gate. LD £16,000. (40,873)

BUCKS, convenient to main line junction. GEORGIAN HOUSE in imbered grounds and parkland. 4 reception, 9 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, c light. Central heating. Walled kitchen garden, hard tennis court. Garage 2. Park-like pasture intersected by a stream, in all 24 ACRES. £10,000.

N

SOMERSET. BEAUTIFUL JACOBEAN MANOR HOUSE, modernised and in first-rate order. 5 reception, 8 bedrooms, 7 bathrooms, servants' rooms. Electric light. Central heating. Walled garden, ornamental water. Lodge. Gardener's cottage Garage and stabling. 2 miles of fishing. Lordship of Manor. 30 ACRES. Present let to Ministry of Health at £320 p.a. £14,000. (70,970)

BERKSHIRE (near Bracknell). Lovely old QUEEN ANNE HOUSE with 50 ACRES further land available. 5 reception, 9 bedrooms (fitted basins), 5 bathrooms, 4 servants' rooms. Main electric light, gas and water. Aga cooker. Garage and stabling. "Grassphilt" court. Chauffeur's house. Gardener's cottage. About 5 ACRES of gardens and grounds including orchard. House and grounds let duration at £600 p.a. PRICE £16,000. (11,154)

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The stone-built house (A.D. 1610) is characteristic of the period. 9 bed and dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms, galleried hall, 3 fine reception rooms. Charming but inexpensive gardens.

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An EXCEPTIONAL SPORTING ESTATE with about 90 acres of well-placed coverts, FISHING in a trout stream flowing through the property.

THE ESTATE IS IN A RING FENCE, WITH THE HOUSE IN THE CENTRE.

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Fine Views

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COUNTRY RESIDENCE containing 17 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 5 reception rooms. STABLING, GARAGES. TWO LODGES. SEVEN COTTAGES. ABOUT ONE MILE OF EXCELLENT TROUT FISHING. GOOD SHOOTING. FARMERY.

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Hall, 2 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, large bathroom and good offices. Electric light, gas, etc. Garage. There is also a piece of land with small boat-shed and landing stage to river.

PRICE FREEHOLD £3.500

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on very high ground with fine view.

FOR SALE A MOST ATTRACTIVE HOUSE on two floors only, having a very nice hall about 13 ft. square with fireplace, large drawing room, dining room, excellent offices with small sitting room for malds. 6-7 bedrooms, large bathroom. Electric light, etc. Spacious garage. GROUNDS OF NEARLY 1 ACRE with fine shrubberies, lawn, kitchen garden. The house well built with oak doors, fine oak staircase, etc.

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FOR SALE AN ATTRACTIVE semi-detached but contain a reception rooms with parque dooring. billiard rooms, 5 bedrooms (3 v h fitted basins), and usual offices.

ELECTRIC LIGHT, GAS, TC.

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All :

RBLY BUILT AND FITTED MODERN HOUSE all, 3 reception, sun loggia, 8 bedrooms, 3 well-fitted bathrooms, maid's sitting room.

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SOLIDLY CONSTRUCTED RESIDENCE

3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms (all bedrooms with hot and cold water), etc.
Double garage.
Electric light and all modern conveniences.

BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS WITH LAWNS, FLOWER BEDS AND EXCELLENT GARDENS. IN ALL ABOUT

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In a quiet and countrified position yet within 10 minutes' walk of station and shops.

HOUSE OF EXCEPTIONAL FITMENT

modernised by present owner and having woodwork of unusual craftsmanship. 3 reception rooms, 8 bedrooms, bathroom, etc. Main water and electricity. Garage for 2 cars. Outbuildings. Wonderful gardens and grounds, including a fine swimming pool. In all about

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Occupying a high position in this lovely district on green-sand soil.

A RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER AND CHARM

4 reception rooms, 11 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, maids' sitting room, etc.

Also a SECONDARY RESIDENCE containing 2 sitting rooms, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Main water and electricity. Central heating. Fitted basins. Garage for 3 cars and man's cottage. Economic gardens, kitchen garden and orchard, in all

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A PLEASING HOUSE FACING SOUTH and containing 4 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, bathroom, offices, etc.
All main services. Independent hot water. 2 garages. Matured gardens and grounds of about
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In the beautiful Leith and Holmbury Hills district.

E 400 YEAR OLD COTTAGE RESIDENCE, with oak beams and interesting features. Lounge hall, 2 other reception rooms, 4 bed and coms, bathroom. Complete offices. Electric light and power. Company's odern drainage. Garage. Useful outbuildings. Small but well-established th fruit trees, kitchen garden, lawns, flower beds. In all about ½ ACRE.

23,750 FREEHOLD. EARLY POSSESSION

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TWIXT SEA AND SOUTH DOWNS c.4



300 YEAR OLD MANOR HOUSE
Lounge hall, 4 reception, 10 bed and dressing rooms (lavatory basins h. & c. in each),
3 bathrooms. Complete offices.
All companies' mains. Central heating, etc. Garage for four cars. Useful outbuildings.
GRANDLY TIMBERED GROUNDS INEXPENSIVE IN UPKEEP WITH
LAWNS, KITCHEN GARDEN, ETC. IN ALL NEARLY

3 ACRES FOR SALE FREEHOLD ON ADVANTAGEOUS

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High ground. Near favourite Golf Course. Amidst ideal surroundings.



RESIDENCE OF ARCHITECTURAL MERIT

3 reception, cloakroom, 4 bedrooms, 2 tiled bathrooms. Main drainage. Companies' electric light, gas, water.
Garage for two cars. Greenhouse.
LOVELY GARDEN with lawn, terrace, vegetable garden. In all about

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Amid unspoilt country, near village, about a mile from station, and 7 miles respectively from the above-named towns.



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RESTORED AND FASHIONED INTO A RESIDENCE FOR GENTLEFOLK 3 reception rooms, 3 bedrooms, bathroom. Main water and electricity. New drainage. Central heating. Garage. Outbuildings.

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TO BE SOLD

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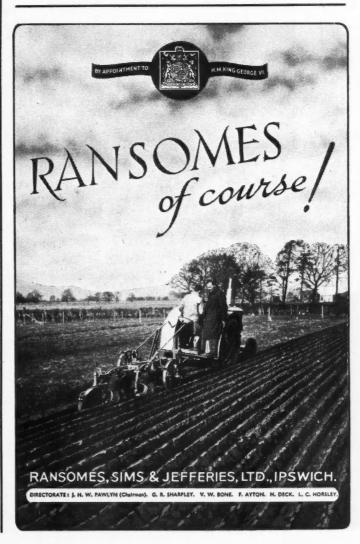


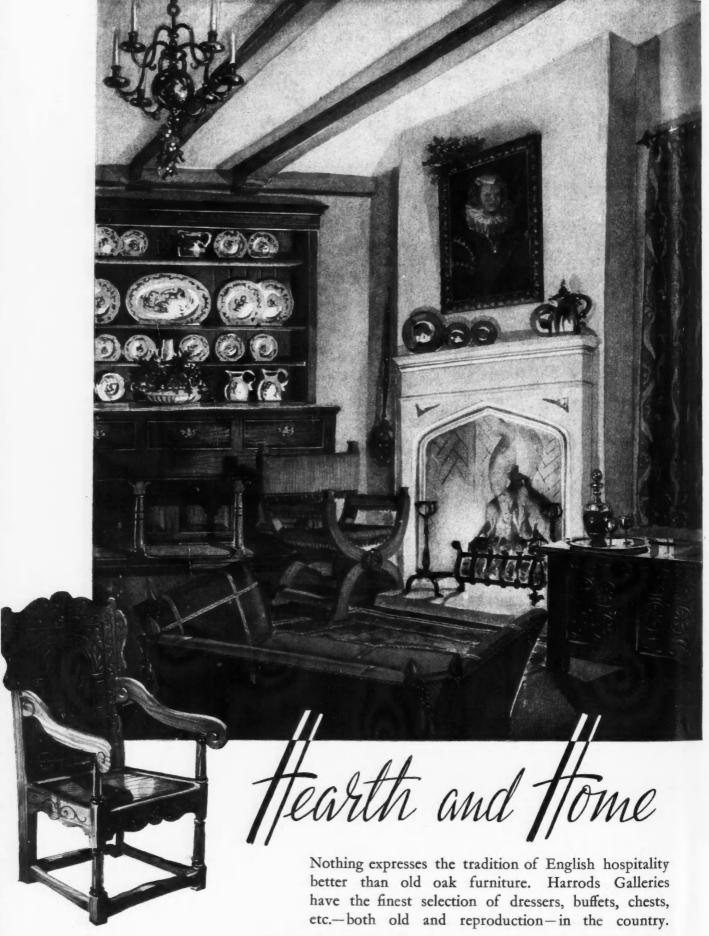
To no small extent the good record of health we are able to show today, after years of intense war effort and no little hardship, is a measure of the efficient planning and operation of the agricultural plans.'—From a Harben Lecture by Prof. J. C. Drummond, D.Sc. F.I.C. (Scientific Adviser, Ministry of Food).

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COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. XCIV. No. 2448

DECEMBER 17, 1943



Bertram Park

LADY GRENFELL

Lady Grenfell, whose husband, Lieutenant-Colonel Lord Grenfell, is serving abroad with the King's Royal Rifle Corps, is the only daughter of the Hon. Lady Legh and the late Captain the Hon. Alfred Shaughnessy.

Lord and Lady Grenfell have two children, Caroline and Julian

COUNTRY LIFE

EDITORIAL OFFICES: 2-10, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2.

Telegrams: Country Life, London Telephone: Temple Bar 7351

ADVERTISEMENTS AND PUBLISHING OFFICES:
TOWER HOUSE,
SOUTHAMPTON STREET,
W C.2.
Telephone: Temple Bar 4363

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The Editor reminds correspondents that communications requiring a reply must be accompanied by the requisite stamps. MSS. will not be returned unless this condition is complied with.

Postal rates on this issue: Inland 2d. Canada 1½d. Elsewhere abroad 2d. Annual subscription rates, including postage: Inland and Abroad, 86s. 8d.; Canada, 84s. 6d.

WATER SUPPLY

ORD WOOLTON'S first speech, defining the part he is to play as Minister of Reconstruction, was realistic and bracing. He is to round off and coordinate the plans of other departments, thus removing the most frequent cause for their He definitely stated that plans for the use and control of land would be introduced "at a very early date," which is good news. It is to be hoped that they will include constructive schemes for the extension of water supplies, the most elementary but still deficient factor in the full use of land. The Scott Committee considered that "provision of a piped water supply is an essential service in every village and on every farm and a desideratum in every dwelling." The other The other day Mrs. Wright pointed out in the House of Commons that 3,432 villages and 865,000 people were still without water supplies, and this obviously one of the important matters for which a plan must be formulated as soon as possible. Just before the war a survey of the water situation was made by Country Life and the results were published in a comprehensive report (England's Water Problem, by H. Spence-Sales and John Bland). This report considers the questions of water provision and water shortage from the point of view not only of agriculture but of the general planning of resources and supplies over the whole country, It contains a large volume of information on which action should be founded.

We need not repeat here the considerations which in this period of alternate husbandry and increased milk production make ample and pure water supplies daily more important to agriculture. It has often been pointed out that in many areas few villages and fewer farms benefit from water mains which pass through or near them to adjacent towns. A grid system has often been recommended, though the Scott Committee "do not consider that the provision of a piped supply necessarily involves the linking up with a large supply system, since the application of electricity to pumping should often make available local underground supplies." It will be reassuring to know that the whole position of national water supply is under review.

PROPOSALS FOR NATIONALISATION

THOUGH it was generally understood that the policy of land nationalisation had been shelved as a political issue at least until the end of the war, the Labour Party's revised statement of policy on the land and agriculture once more produces the familiar panacea, with proposals for a general Enabling Act laying down a basis for compensation. In view of the fact that Lord De La Warr and Lord Addison

both support an agreed programme of agrireconstruction based on individual cultural ownership, this pious survival of the undiluted doctrine of the past need not, perhaps, be taken too seriously as an indication of recalcitrance on the Left. Other parts of the statement, which discusses the nature and effect of war-time controls of both farming and marketing, show a general endorsement of the recommendations the Scott and Uthwatt Reports and no evident disposition to shy at practicable proposals in the vested interests of a political nostrum. It is as well, however, that all of us, whatever our political views on this matter, should remember the reasons why nationalisation has been definitely ruled out of practical politics for the present. They are briefly stated in the Uthwatt Report. To attempt to enforce the policy would lead to political deadlock Further, it would involve financial operations which, in the immediate post-war period, would almost certainly be out of the question. It would also involve the immediate establishment a complicated administrative machinery equipped to deal with the whole of the land of country; and how complicated that machinery would be can be seen from the proposals in the Labour Party's revised statement. On the other hand, both the Scott and Uthwatt Committees have emphasised the fact that the changes they recommend are not contingent on the ownership of land by the State, by public authorities or by individuals. A change from private to public ownership would still leave the same things to be done.

ON THE SUSSEX DOWNS

(OBSERVATION POST)

THE shepherd scans the hazy evening skies

As through his life he constantly has done,

And notes with practised and far-seeing eyes

The setting sun.

He knows the signs of rain, but not for this He watches, not for winds that, fitful, blow; He keeps his vigil that he may not miss A winged foe.

LESLIE M. OYLER.

BUILDING POLICY

R. ALFRED BOSSOM, who was one of the three experts sent to the U.S.A. by Lord Portal to report on American building methods, is convinced that temporary buildings will be necessary to meet part, at least, of the immense and urgent need of houses after the war. The first thing to be done, he told the Royal Society of Arts, was for every Regional Commissioner to obtain an estimate from local authorities of the accommodation required. Then the Government can decide the extent to which the demand can be met by conversion of existing buildings (camps, etc.) and by the early repair of damaged or derelict houses, and how many new ones must be erected. He saw no alternative to an interim policy if grave social unrest is to be avoided. But though the buildings should have a maximum life of 7-8 years, they should be of satisfactory size and be built on properly planned sites, approved by the Ministry of Town and Country Planning, which the permanent houses will subsequently occupy, making use of the roads and services installed for the temporary ones. He did not reveal what he thought the temporary houses should be built of-for that we shall, no doubt, have to await the triumvirate's report to their Minister—but he did propose that the cost of them should be a national war charge on the State. He foresaw the interior of the permanent houses being 75 per cent. factory assembled, but the exterior 25 per cent. individually finished. So pre-fabrication, in the American sense, is evidently not recommended. The criticism to be made of this interim proposal is that an equipped temporary house costs nearly if not quite as much as a permanent one, and the labour employed may be diverted from permanent building. On the other hand, the building industry cannot conceivably produce four to five million permanent houses in a year or two of the war's end, which is what is required. But the fullest use should be made of existing buildings to keep temporary erections

G. O.

HE careers of most football players are short, but there will always be a few names to sound stirring in the ears of generations much too young to have seen them in their pride on the field. One of these was most emphatically G. O. Smith, who has died at the age of 71. Though he went down from Oxford in 1896 and became a busy and successful schoolmaster, he was always among the obvious choices for England till 1901 and there has been no more famous centre-forward. There were other distinguished names in his Oxford sides, Oakley Raikes and Fry to mention only three, but G. O. was the greatest beyond comparison. He was not strongly built but he had a wonderful sense of balance and a power of weaving a d winding his way and, though not a prolifi-goals, he was a great maker of the scorer of people. It is not unfair to say that e famous Stephen Bloomer owed him not a lit G. 0.'s eminence at football has naturally over shadowed his reputation as a cricketer and he time for first-class cricket, but he p had little yed twice for Oxford against Cambridge. was the unquestioned hero of Lord's in 396, when Oxford went in for their second in ngs with 330 to make to win. After a poor start, G.O. came in, made 132, and the match was gloriously won by four wickets.

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MORE QUAILS

HE last two or three years have brought more and more reports of quails in this country. That war should have any noticeable effect on the supplies of a migrant species does not seem likely, but it is permissible to recall that the well-known Lakeland ornithologist Dr. H. J. Moon, whose death was recently announced, attributed the scarcity of warblers a few years ago to the Italo-Abyssinian war because of "sanctions," Mussolini had suspended various bird protection orders in Italy The netting of many millions of quails in the Mediterranean probably reduced the Old World's quails considerably between 1775 and References to Gilbert White, Charles 1925. St. John and even Morris show that quails used to be much commoner in Britain than they have lately been. The interruption they have lately been. The interruption of overseas trade may have caused quainetting to slacken, but, even so, the reappearance of quails in England is not fully explained, for most of the large-scale netting was done in the central and eastern Mediterranean, and England is thought to receive her quails by the westerly migration line--North-west Africa, the Iberian Peninsula and Western France. Whatever the reason for the quails' return, we may hope that these birds, migrations were recorded by the ancient Hebrew and Latin writers, will be received as welcome visitors and not shot as invaders,

HIGH TEA

MANY people will feel sympathy with Mr. Shinwell in his lament over the departure of high tea from the House of Commons; not so much in the particular instance, as to which there may be reasons which they cannot judge, but on the general question of that admirable meal. Not only is it delicious in itself but it is essentially romantic. Students of Tom Brown's School Days will recall Tom's pride on his first day at Rugby in providing sausages for lea after the School-house Match and the delights of toasting them at the fire. Nobody can ever have read that passage without recalling similar perhaps delicious meals after football, especiall happy or a Saturday with a long evening of la repletion stretching ahead. To others recall long days in the open air and the tion of noble walks. Sausages are possessed in the control of ulmina aps the though ideal, but there are also eggs. The sto ttle girl well known, is still pleasant of the who, enquiring into the attributes of and being told that he had no dinner, laimed Then he must have an egg to his egg for tea is good enough but "to' the right preposition, since it sexciting addition to the commonply and cake, Rightly is such a "high," for he who does clearly ests an joys of called 3 near to high," for he who devours it com touching the stars with uplifted he d.

A Countryman's Notes...

By

jor C. S. JARVIS

ING those waits, sometimes exided ones, between the blast of the istle or horn by the head-keeper d the arrival of the first of the on the wing, it is vastly interesting, a stand which enables one to look if one wild life at the first sound of the into the actions beaters. To-day, with small boys village school the only man-power from th there is plenty of noise—enough to seven sleepers or the most somnolent last Saturday it sounded sometimes availabl stir up beating was being carried out by a as if the tribe of Comanche Indians. * *

THE first creatures to show alarm seem to be the wood-pigeons, jays and blackbirds, the first taking no chances whatsoever and winging off at an altitude of some 200 ft. to some far distant wood; but the jays, loath to leave the home cover, scream incessantly, fly from tree to tree and attempt ultimately to take flight to another cover, only to change their minds half way and come back again. The blackbirds seem to be more worried and vociferous than the jays, and if any of the denizens of the wood do not know what is happening it is not the fault of the blackbirds. Then the hares arrive, and on certain days it seems as though the entire population have deserted the winter wheat, stubble and roots, and have taken cover in the woods. On these occasions the hare seems to be the most stupid animal in the world and one wonders how he manages to survive, for he will come right to the edge of the wood, and stop and stare at the gun immediately in front of him; go straight at him, having failed to see him; or he will lollop slowly along the hedgerow until, in the interests of the larder, someone takes the necessary and almost distasteful action.

WITH the hares arrive those artful old cock pheasants, who years ago in their youth flew over the guns once and registered a vow never to do it again. All one sees is a glimpse of a bronze body and a turquoise and scarlet head in the brambles, and next moment he has vanished again into the thicket. When the heaters knock out that particular bit of cover later a hen or two, or a young cock, may rise, but not the old cock-he has trickled away down a hedgerow on the flank some 10 minutes previously. While waiting outside a wood the other day, when nearly all the guns in the field outside were visible, I saw one of these old stagers make a fatal mistake, and it was not his fault. Shortly after the drive had started I saw the gun on my right, No. 3, come to the alert an then relax again, and half a minute later a c ck pheasant showed for a moment in front of to vanish so quickly that I was doubtfu I had really seen anything. Then No. 5, a Iome Guardsman, sprang smartly to attentic be followed almost immediately by a Home Guardsman, and a corporal at that lost unfortunately for the poor old cock th had been a slight misunderstanding over in tions, and seven guns had turned up shoot instead of the usual six; and No. 7 standing out of sight on the other side of a he so that when the old veteran, after counting six, rose confidently in what he thought was a safety zone unoccupied by the enemy, he



E. W. Tattersall

CLEAR SKIES: ASHBURY, BERKSHIRE

met his Waterloo. I had a look at him afterwards and, as I expected, he had spurs on him like a black-breasted red game-cock.

MONG the stories told during the bringyour-own-luncheon interval that day was one of a plutocrat's shoot of other times when there were two carefully-drilled formations of beaters to drive some very prolific partridge country. The guns were posted in a narrow sunken lane and the idea was that, on a single blast from the keeper's horn, No. 1 platoon of beaters should march off to drive from east to west. When this move was completed, and the air had been cleared of its swarm of coveys, the guns were to turn about, and two blasts on the horn would start No. 2 platoon to drive from west to east. The organisation was excellent, but the keeper's musical talent not so good, for he bungled his first blast on the horn so that it was uncertain if he had blown one toot with an attractive tremolo in the middle, or two separate toots. The result was that both platoons of beaters stepped off smartly at the same moment, and the scene which ensued in that sunken lane, with coveys coming over from both front and rear, was something to be remembered.

HE news that there are over one hundred war correspondents at work on an 80-mile front in Italy is a reminder of how greatly things have changed since the days of the Sudan and South African campaigns, when war correspondents were regarded as dangerous pests, were kept well back at the farthest base and allowed to see nothing. To-day they are permitted to go everywhere and see everything; they can say exactly what they like about the various generals and their faces and figures. and, according to their accounts, are conducting minor operations on their own, for one reads of them occupying villages before the arrival of the troops! Also the establishment of contact between two operating armies is now done exclusively by the war correspondents, and not by patrols and despatch-riders as in other days.

One of the results of this is that the reports we read are true pictures of the fighting from the view-point of the common soldier, and this is important and enlightening. During the last war correspondents were not allowed in the actual front-line trenches, except on those rare occasions when things were peaceful, and therefore some of these writers never quite grasped the outlook of the common soldier, or saw the war in all its grimness. There were two clichés which they used with the greatest regularity, and which infuriated the troops beyond words when they read them in the newspapers. One was the inspiring account of how the men crouching in the trenches in the dim dawn, waiting for

zero hour, were looking forward with the greatest eagerness to going over the top through the slough of shell-pitted mud to the unbroken enemy wire beyond. One heard so often the remark: "I wish to Gawd the bloke who wrote this would come out and do it himself!"

* *

HE other cliché concerned the arrival of the wounded at the casualty clearing stations, and certain correspondents never failed to comment in a fulsome manner on the extraordinary cheerfulness of most of the stretcher When a man has been living like an unclean reptile for some two years of war in sodden trenches which were constantly plastered with shells, and a bullet wound in the arm, shoulder or leg meant from three to six months peaceful bliss between clean sheets with unlimited food, invalid stout with which to wash it down, and a charming V.A.D. to cheer him up, he was apt to regard himself as the luckiest man in the company, and bear the throbbing pain in his wound with something more than complete fortitude. During the most distasteful and hopeless periods of the last war, such as the Passchendaele offensive, the right sort of wound, known as a blighty, was regarded as a direct gift from Providence and a boon of great price; and a brigadier of 1917 tells an amusing story of that time. He was coming down a communication trench after visiting the remnants of his brigade which had had four days' heavy fighting, when a man hurrying behind him prodded him in the back with the muzzle of his rifle. It was too dark for the private to see that he had collided with an officer and a very senior one, and when asked why he was hurrying he said: "Out of my way. I've copped a blighty and I don't want anything

HERE have been so many queries and objections raised concerning the issue of the Africa Star that one hesitates to add to their number. It would be interesting, however, to hear geographers' views of the boundary of Africa as defined by the War Office in their ruling that "formations not west of the Suez Canal" are excluded from the award of the decoration, thus tacitly accepting that this waterway is the dividing line between the continents of Africa and Asia. Why the actual wording should be "not west," instead of east," only the Whitehall scribes who penned it can explain, but it will add spice to the arguments which will arise later over the location of formations who, though camped on the east bank, have crossed over to the west for fatigue work and patrols. In this war, as in the last, there have been units stationed all along the Canal, and their movements from one side to the other have been constant.

A WILD HERON FILMED AT WORK

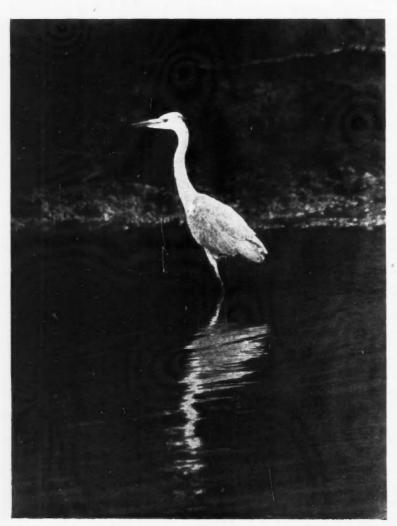
Written and Illustrated by FRANCES PITT

[The heron has often been superbly photographed at the nest, but very seldom away from it. Few naturalists have succeeded in getting pictures of the "grey fisherman" on the water, and we cannot recall any snapshots of a wild heron in the act of taking a fish. This being so, we have pleasure in publishing the following article and pictures which show a heron at work and the actual capture of a fish. We particularly commend to the reader's attention the extracts from the cine-film, as these form, having regard to the fact that the subject was a wild bird, what we believe to be a unique record.—Ed.]

ITH an impatient tug I pulled back the black-out curtains and looked forth into the misty morning, at a dawn so beautiful that I forgot to be annoyed with that necessary evil, the black-out. Grey vapours steamed from the turf of the meadow and from the glassy surface of the water of the nearly dried-up pond that lay on the farther side of the field. Ordinarily it is a nice deep pool, where roach, perch and tench have a happy home amid the tangled forest of water-weeds; but a long dry spell has had a dire effect, the pond has shrunk and shrunk, until it now consists of a mere puddle of shallow dirty water surrounded by an expanse of sunbaked clay. The weeds have vanished and not only are the luckless fish without shelter but often their back fins are out of water while they are at the same time stirring up the mud. However, there was still a sufficient expanse of water to reflect the sunrise. The crimson and



THE COMPLEAT ANGLER ARRIVES



THE HERON SCANS THE POND

gold of coming day, slashed across with bars of purple cloud, rose to a dome of greeny-blue and every detail was reflected in the rippleless mirror. The trees and bushes about the pond loomed blackly against the sunrise, making an ebon frame for its flaming glory, the grandeur of which increased every moment, yet its beauty did not hold my attention for more than the briefest of instants. A shape, a tall thin form, moved at the water's edge and was clearly outlined against the crimson water as a heron.

"A crane," murmured I to myself in the language of my native Shropshire, where the common or grey heron, Ardea cinerea, is usually known by the name that in bird books is reserved for Grus grus, the common crane. The latter formerly lived in our fen districts but is now only seen in these islands as an occasional visitor at migration time. I am a complete ignoramus where etymological matters are concerned, but I have a feeling that our forefathers must have used the word "crane" for any tall long bird, and it certainly seemed very suitable for the grey shape that stalked along the pondside.

A freak of lighting now transformed the bird into a ghostly white form against a background of reflected black trees, and so it remained for a moment before it moved a step back, spread its great wings, and rose with mighty flaps into the air. Once more it became a dark silhouette, but now it was a shape that departed with majestic beats of its wide wings towards the east, where the dazzling radiance of the sun, rising as a crimson ball above the horizon, blinded me as I tried to follow its course.

Such was my first glimpse of The Crane, but I did not give him much thought, for I took it for granted that he was merely a passing visitor. However, I was mistaken. When I looked out the next day, on a morning as dull as the previous one had been brilliant, it was to see him planing down from clouds of the same grey hue as his feathers. He circled round on his great wings, then with legs extended he dropped gently earthwards. He alighted in the meaning around. He gazed anxiously about for some minute before, satisfied at last that it was safe to begin fishing, and strode off towards the pond. Carefully did he pick his way over its muddy verge and then stepped delice ely into the water.

My brother, who is a keen fisherman and trees much interest in the inhabitants of the pond, saw the bron and cast a glance towards the gun-cupboard

"No! Oh, no!" I cried in answer to that gland worth his weight in—in——" and I hesitated, when came to me and I added: "his weight in port!"

Without waiting for a retort I hurried off to rul mage out

a hiding-tent, for I had realised that if the shallow pond was providing an opportunity for the visitor it was also presenting me with an unique chance of photographing an entirely free, wild, uncontrolled heron plying his trade of Compleat Angler.

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ent was soon found and carried to The The Crane flew off at my approach, seen him take a fish and I felt sure the pond but I ha turn. I put the hide on the embankforms one side of the pool and left the fisherman might get used to it. I looked out of the window as soon s sufficient light to see out into the nmediately spotted my friend. He pool, wading just in front of the hide. Sunday, September 26, and, even if these times is no day of rest, and the best day of the week to take French leave of everybody thing. I gathered a ciné-camera rter-plate reflex and departed to try

W cameras in position I waited, staring irst one peep-hole and then another. throug plenty to be seen from the hide. There a score of mallard, tame ducks that There headquarters on the pond, and my e, grey-lags, bean, pink-footed, and ean × pink-footed. They all came to have th. hybrid play—when they had finished the water was even more muddy than before. A party of long-tailed tits danced about in a near-by bush, doing the most delightful acrobatics, such as hanging upside down by one foot from the extreme tips of the twigs. I was able to study the fairy mites in detail, noting their long tails, the fairy mites in detail, noting their long tails, their grey, white and brown plumage, and in particular the broad grey-white stripe down the crown of the head. A portly blue woodpigeon, with a very white collar, flew down and drank deeply on the opposite side of the pond. It plunged in its beak and took a "long pull and strong pull," as is ever the practice of the dove tribe. Some jackdaws that also came for water took genteel sips, raising the head between each sip in order to let the water run down their throats. But I forgot pigeons and jackdaws when two great spotted woodpeckers on an oak tree across the pond indulged in a delightful game. They chased each other up and down the tree-trunk and then played hide-and-seek around it, when their black and white



THE FISHERMAN SPOTS A ROACH

plumage, set off with touches of scarlet, rendered them very conspicuous. While romping they uttered a curious little chuckling call as if they were laughing at each other.

Woodpeckers, long-tailed tits and pigeons were, however, forgotten when the heron arrived. He came so quietly that I did not see him fly over, but was suddenly aware that he was standing on the farther bank. He had evidently alighted out in the meadow and was now walking to the water. Herons never alight in the water if they can help it, having seemingly a horror of getting out of their depth. This is not because they are unable to swim, for I have seen one swim quite well, but because it is their custom. Heron usage ordains that

the bird must descend on dry land and step cautiously into the shallows. Arrived at the pondside The Crane shook out his feathers and passed his long beak through them as if to tidy himself up before beginning business. I saw that he was a bird of the year and lacked the long head-plume of an aged bird, but he was a fine specimen and certainly already a Compleat Angler.

Regardless of ducks and of geese The Crane stepped quietly forward, wading gently through the shallow muddy water, and picking up his feet so that he made hardly a ripple. He paused between each movement and scrutinised the pool with intent stare. He reminded me of a cat watching for a mouse. He was obviously expecting a fish at any moment. pressed the button of the ciné-camera; its mechanism made a purring sound, and I released the shutter of

my reflex which went off with what seemed a loud noise, but the fisherman paid no heed. I found that he worried little about noise and was comparatively indifferent to movement of the front of the hide-for instance, I could swing the cameras in order to follow him without alarming him—but any person moving within radius of his vision caused him to take flight immediately. The house was visible and on one occasion a duster shaken from an upstairs window caused his hasty departure. He was not seen again that day. Fortunately he continued to disregard the hide, but on this first morning I could hardly believe my good luck. It did not seem credible that I was really watching a heron fishing at a range varying from 20 to 10 yds.

The Crane stared steadfastly, then lowered his head a little and with his neck extended to its full length made a point just as a terrier will point a rabbit sitting in a bush. Would the bird ever move? He did, with a sudden swift lunge that defeated the eye, and picked a small roach neatly from the pool.

According to many pictures and descriptions the heron transfixes a fish with the point of its rapier-like beak, but my bird used its bill like a pair of forceps, and very efficient forceps they were. Of course a heron on the defensive and using its beak as a weapon against a foe would employ a different technique, when the beak would be a rapier in fact as well as appearance,

The swiftness with which the heron captured his fish was startling. It was like the pounce of a cat on a mouse, or of a hawk on a bird. But having secured it he again became deliberate in his movements. He held the silvery thing for several moments, while it flapped helpless in his vice-like grip, then by some sleight of hand, or rather sleight of beak, he turned it about so that he held it longways instead of across his beak. It was now head downwards. He gave a gulp and another gulp and the fish was gone. He shook himself, looked a little thoughtful; but his hesitation was only for an instant and in a brief while he was on the move again, stepping gently forward with extended neck on the look-out for roach number two.

In less time than it takes to tell the story the heron had a second fish, and it was as quickly disposed of. Like the first it was a small roach between 3 and 4 ins. in length.

The ducks, ever an inquisitive clan, now came swimming up, quacking, bowing and



LIGHTNING LUNGE AND HE HAS THE FISH

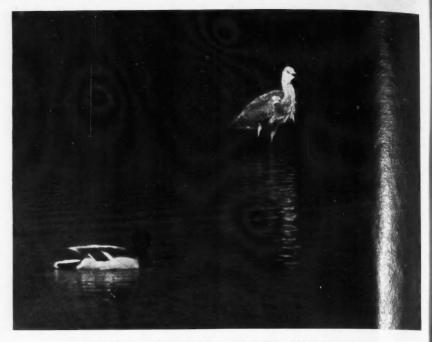
getting in the fisherman's way. The lanky visitor aroused their curiosity and he found himself surrounded by a tiresome audience. It became more and more difficult for him to do anything and at last he took wing and flew to land. Here he stayed for a time. He picked up and played with a twig. He preened himself, and rested with his head sunk in his shoulders, as is the way of a well-satisfied heron. Unfortunately I could not stay indefinitely, so I raised the back of the hide, crawled down the embankment and slipped away, leaving him still resting happily in the meadow.

The method of my departure gave me an idea. Each morning I put my cameras ready in the hide, but if there was no sign of the fisherman I returned to the house, where I continued with my jobs, keeping a sharp eye open for the bird. When I saw him I warned everyone not so much as to look out from the front of the house, and I slipped out at the back. I then made a considerable detour, approached the pond behind the shelter of the embankment, crawled up the bank and wriggled into the hide. For an elderly spinster of not-so-slim figure there are drawbacks to this sort of thing, particularly when strong thistles and remarkably thorny brambles add to the discomiort of the deerstalker mode of progression. However, the feat was successfully managed, not once, but a good many times, and I had a series of interviews with the Compleat Angler.

The photographs that illustrate this article were taken at intervals over a period of a week. The best ones were got on a showery day when rain storms alternated with bursts of sunshine. The Crane seemed extra keen. He stalked up and down the pond casting a vigilant eye

first right then left, and he paid no heed to the bothering ducks. Occasionally a heron becomes annoyed by too attentive onlookers, and I have known ducks receive nasty stabs, but this bird endured the quacking crowd with exemplary patience and displayed no bad temper. He continued his fishing and came nearer and nearer to the hide, almost too close for the 4-in. lens I was using on the ciné-camera and for the 17-in. lens I had in place on the still camera, but when he grabbed a fish I was able to get an excellent close-up of him and his catch, the ciné-film showing in detail how he dealt with the fish.

This roach was a bigger fish than his previous captures and after swallowing it he waded off to the verge of the pond where he stood for a while with a decidedly after-luncheon look. He tidied himself up, sipped water from a puddle, amused himself picking up small things on the mud (juvenile frogs leaving the water for life on dry land?) and finally climbed the bank to find a nice spot where he could preen himself carefully. He was in the act of scratching his head when there was an agonised squeal from beneath the bushes at the end of the pond. It was a piteous cry and was repeated two or three times. The Crane stopped short in the midst of his beauty treatment, the ducks turned and stared towards the bushes, and I too peered through one of my



A MEDITATIVE MOMENT WHILE THE FISH GOES DOWN

peep-holes in an effort to see what mischief was afoot. That agonised cry could come from but one creature, a rabbit pursued by a stoat, and in another instant I saw both hunted and hunter. The luckless rabbit was staggering down the bank beneath the bushes towards the water's edge. The stoat was just behind it and leapt upon it as I stared. Again came the dreadful scream and a scuffling on the mud. The heron on the bank and the ducks in the water began to move. As folk in a London street will rush to the scene of an accident so did those birds rush to see what was going on. The Crane raced with long strides along the bank and the ducks swam at a great pace. If there was excitement to be had they were not going to miss it.

By this time the stoat had undoubtedly killed the rabbit, but I could not see exactly what was happening. In the light of later investigation I think it must have dragged its victim down a near-by rabbit-hole, where it could deal with it unhampered by an interested inquisitive crowd. The ducks came back, the heron returned, and all went on quietly about their affairs, which in the heron's case consisted of more beauty treatment; he scratched himself, using his long centre toe which bears a toothed comb, and no doubt distributed powder from his powder-down tracts about his plumage, but

I was too far off to see the full details $\ensuremath{\mathrm{u}}$ his long toilet.

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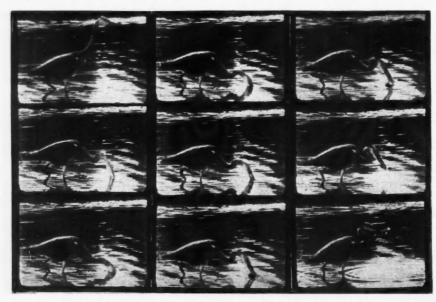
All that week The Crane fished the pond, coming early, middle-day and late, by which time the stock of roach was getting less, though there were still plenty of small perch. But perch from a heron's standpoint have their drawbacks, the chief of which is a strong, spiny dorsal fin, and he did not appreciate them. I saw him catch one, but drop it in disgust. The fish swam happily away. However, there were still roach, and good ones too, in the garden pond, so the Compleat Angler turned his eyes that way.

By this time my hopes were rising high of achieving yet another photographic scoop, namely a picture of two herons fishing side by side, for on hearing a sound as of a wagon-wheel in need of grease I looked towards the pond and saw two blue-grey forms upon the turf. Was The Crane welcoming a brother? As a fact his harsh cry must have been a warning-off notice, for the second heron hastily departed. It has been again and I live in hope of getting a snapshot of the two together, but I fear my friend does not extend a welcome to number two.

The Crane, I regret to add, shows a strong disposition to shirk his duties as a film star. He wants the fish from the garden pond, but instead of coming for them in the day-time when I could

take colour films of him from a hide I have put on the pondside, he chooses early morning and late evening for his visits. This of course is according to heron custom. Except in very quiet unfrequented spots herons usually fish at dawn and dusk. A propos of this, they must have amazingly keen eyes, for it cannot be easy to see a fish in muddy water when there is very little light to see by. The late Dr. Francis Ward, with the aid of his remarkable under-water photographs, showed us how a fish may betray itself by the flash from its silvery side when it turns, and it is possible it is this flash that helps the grey fisherman of the twilight and even of the moonlight—I looked out one night, the moon sparkled on the glittering water of the pool, and there was The Crane striding across the lawn. He stepped into the water, where he showed as a black silhouette against the silver moonlit; and, and there he waited and watched.

And what will be the end of my Comple ery last very much fear that when he has had the lis great fish that is worth having, he will spread e of farewings, and fly off without so much as a gla he has well, still less with any thanks for the sp enjoyed. But I have had sport too, wond with the camera, which perhaps, as I was ful sport is not ch. I feel finished, for I may be able to get him more I ra while. sure if the stock is replenished he will stay on heartily Anyhow, whether he is grateful or not thank him for the thrills he has given me and wish him all good luck.



A CINE-CAMERA RECORD OF THE ANGLER'S WORK (The pictures should be read downwards in each column)

A DESERT FOX AS A PET

By MAJOR BORIS GUSSMAN

EYNARD was a little desert fox only bout two weeks old when I found him st outside Ismailia on the Suez Canal. was very small, very helpless and nger. His parents had been killed, in great and so h his brothers and sisters: some Arab re just about to despatch him when children arrival saved the situation. my time

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d him up and put him in a haversack. with all the power he had, which was not much. He spat and snapped y jaws, but a good hold on the scruff prevented any harm from being ling that perhaps a small fox might orth five piastres, I gave the Arab at amount. From the enjoyment ived later from the purchase I feel

ice was very moderate.

him up to Cairo, still in the havere arrived at my flat a very frightened ed fox. He was very unsteady on his two weeks he lived in a high box

hand-fed on milk and an occasional

egg. Wh the was about a month old I decided as time he took up some more perthat it manent bode. As yet there had been no indication that he regarded clean habits as anything of importance, and so I had to teach him to be

This was the first step successfully achieved in my endeavour to bring him up like a dog. He was too thin to wear any kind of dog collar at the start, so I dressed him up in a green ribbon to get him used to having something round his neck. He took no notice of the ribbon.

During the day he spent a somewhat lonely time in a small empty room with his sand-box, a little water and a golf ball with which for some reason he rever played. His colour both then and throughout the time I had him was a light brown that was almost yellow, a colour which blends perfectly into the desert land-scapes that would have been his habitat.

It is probable that while he was alone he slept most of the day, as is the habit of foxes the world over. But he was always remarkably active in the evening and during the night. By the time he was six weeks old he had become completely used to me and showed no kind of timidity. He used to come out in the evenings for his big meal and then run about the flat.

For about three months he would take only soft food, such as bread and milk, eggs or fruit. It was not that his teeth were not up to biting things, for they were like small needles, but he just did not seem to get the idea. I finally got him to eat cooked meat by starting him off on mince, then giving him small pieces and finally the real thing. He would never touch raw meat, no matter how hungry he was.

When he was about two months old he developed gastritis. The vet. said that it was due to the wrong kind of feeding and held out small hope of recovery. Reynard did not like the vet., but he soon discovered that vets. have emphatic ways of dealing with small animals. With me he was a good patient. He slept most of the day. It was always necessary to give him a double dose of medicine because he invariably managed to keep half of it in his throat until I had set him down when he would

sneeze it up again. He as extremely destructive, and it was fatal to eave any clothes or shoes within his ate sufficient of two of my shirts to reno them useless, while I lost count of of socks he pulled to pieces. Leather his favourite, and he found straps, the nui was reshoes trunks very welcome. Laces were never from his attacks, which he usually delive during mealtimes when our attention wise engaged. He knew quite well destruction was wrong, but no doubt was of that this g added zest to the sport. He would prane about the room with a glove or sock in his mouth, shaking and tearing at it when he believed he was not observed. When he was pranc young there was not much harm in this, because

it was fairly easy to catch him and take the object away. When he grew more active this habit became extremely annoying, as he was very hard to catch if he felt obstinate. If he did not destroy whatever he had, he hid it.

What must have been instinct, because he was much too young when he left his mother to have learnt it by any other means, was a habit that often let him down when engaged in hiding either something that he had stolen or pieces of food. He would deposit his prize as close to the wall as he could in some visible corner of the room, and then with his nose go through all the motions of brushing sand over it. From time to time he would stop, view it with all the concentration of someone engaged on a very difficult task, and carry on again. At length he would quite happily leave it, his



REYNARD-VERY SMALL AND VERY HELPLESS

instinct satisfied that it was invisible even though his eyes knew that it was not.

As a little fox he was always highly ambitious to perform antics which only longer and stronger limbs were to make possible. He would try to jump on to chairs and sofas that were quite beyond his reach, and usually he tumbled on his back. He also jumped from chairs that were far too high and made crash landings, sometimes limping a little afterwards, but never for long.

Whenever entering a room he was never completely at his ease until he had carried out a thorough tour of the walls, in order to have a complete strategical picture to suit any emer-gency. He ascertained where all the entrances were which either he could use or by which a stranger might enter, and, what no doubt was most important to him, where all the best boltholes and the best hiding-places were.

As he grew he became more and more playful and he loved to be rolled about. Though he used his teeth freely, he seldom bit hard enough to penetrate the skin, and it was always an accident if he did. He was essentially a defensive fighter, and he preferred to parry attacks rather than make then. If he did attack, it was usually from the back and took the form of creeping up and nipping my ankle and making away again. Akin to this defensive fighting was his favourite sport of being chased. He evidently thought that his cunning brain could always contrive methods of eluding me. He would approach, nip my leg and dash away, hopeful of pursuit. I would go after him and he would dash from room to room, sometimes hiding very quietly until I was almost on top of him before he broke away, or else letting me pass. Often I would do this when I knew quite well where he lay, knowing that as soon as I had gone past he would leave his hiding-place and quietly trot behind me, no doubt thinking it a great joke. He would soon have another nip and dash away to start all over again.

I never took him out in the street on a lead because of the dangers of picking up rabies, a common complaint in Egypt, or distemper. When he did go out he always travelled in a haversack, which he seemed to like. On one occasion when I had him with me I happened to be having lunch at the Gezira Sporting Club and I had no option but to put him in one of the kennels set aside for members' dogs. The time he spent in the kennels must have been the worst he ever went through. When I put him in, there were no dogs there, but they soon began to arrive and one and all, no matter how far distant was the hunter ancestry, found the proximity of fox something to get really excited about. The barking was continuous and when I went to get Reynard after a little over an hour he was frightened out of his life. He bit and scratched at me as I put him in his haversack, and the experience upset him so much that he became an almost neurotic fox for several days.

There were times when he was very shorttempered. Chief of these was when he was having his collar put on. This was because once when he was very young he got himself rather badly tied up in a harness he was wearing and by jumping about he had got very entangled and he hurt himself quite a lot. He seemed to remember this episode. I found, however, that if I put my hand inside his mouth whenever he really intended to bite, he would give up the idea and become docile. To draw the hand away was fatal, and it was only long familiarity with him from cubhood that enabled me to

give him my hand with confidence.

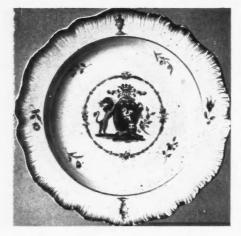
When he was about six months old and his tail was just beginning to develop into a real bush, I had to leave Cairo for some weeks. As there was no chance of his settling down with anybody else, I deposited him in the Zoo. I was away for some time and it was a point of interest whether he would recognise me on my return. Usually when I returned home in the evenings he would greet my arrival with tail wagging and snap playfully at my fingers as I stroked him, but the welcome I got after I had been away for six weeks greatly exceeded any show of affection that he had ever before given. When I was about 50 yds, away from his cage I whistled and he woke up at once. By the time I had got to him, he was climbing up the bars in a vain attempt to get out. On my entering the cage he ran round and round me, wagging his tail and letting out the strangest shrieks I had ever heard him utter. Finally he tried to jump into my arms, and when I picked him up he tried to lick my face.

He had been by far the fiercest fox in the Zoo, and he snarled with fury every time the keeper climbed into his cage or tried to catch

hold of him.

There are two things which prevent a fox from becoming properly domesticated. These are his nocturnal habits and the extreme nervousness which makes him completely onemannish. Both these traits seem to be instinctive, and no amount of training makes the slightest difference. I would often keep Reynard awake all day, but he would still be galvanised into activity all night as well and if I left my bedroom door open he would be on and off my bed until I had to lock him up. He never showed signs of losing his nervousness and watchfulness in the presence of strangers and even after coming out of the Zoo, where hundreds of people had gazed at him, he was just the same. Con-sequently he could never be shown off and admired for his beautiful white-tipped tail and attractive mannerisms.

The end of the story came when I was posted to the desert. During the night on the train he contrived to bite through the ropes of the ruck-sack in which he was travelling and when we arrived at the railhead next morning he had gone. Somehow he had managed to jump off, either at a stop or while the train was moving. Perhaps the idea of being a front-line fox did not appeal to him.



SWANSEA EARTHENWARE PLATE With foreign coat of arms, Spade mark

ASTIDIOUS collectors of English china are apt to make the eighteenth century the limit of their activities, but even the most exacting are as a rule willing to be indulgent towards two factories which make of "English" a term not strictly accurate. Even if they hold, in the words of Gilbert, that "art stopped short at the cultivated Court of the Empress Josephine," only a slight extension of time is needful to admit within the age of art the productions of the two Welsh porcelain works

Unfortunately, these factories have been the victims of a vast amount of misguided romanticism, and there was ample scope for a rigorously objective treatment of the subject. This has now been handsomely provided by

SWANSEA and NANTGARW EARTHENWARE and PORCELAIN

By BERNARD RACKHAM

Mr. E. Morton Nance, who, though not a Welshman by birth, has given his time and his critical acumen to studying one of the industries of his country of adoption. His book—The Pottery and Porcelain of Swansea and Nantgarw, with a foreword by R. L. Hobson (B. T., Batsford)—is the more to be commended because he confines himself to establishing the facts and leaves resthetic estimation to his readers. Not everything that came from the kilns of Swansea and Nantgarw can be highly praised from an artistic standpoint, but china-lovers will admit the excellence to sight and touch of more than one of the Welsh porcelain types. It is a merit of Mr. Nance's work that the earthenwares which formed by far the greater bulk of the Swansea output receive in it more attention than has hitherto been given them.

The factory which later came to be called the Cambrian Pottery was founded in 1764 by William Coles, who, like so many other potters in the West, was a Quaker. The earliest printed reference to it found by Mr. Nance dates from 1781, in a work by Lord Lyttelton. From this early period we have dated specimens of whitish earthenware with decoration either incised and then filled in with darker clay, or painted in blue, somewhat resembling early Leeds ware. That saltglaze was made at Swansea is one of the notoriously loose statements in the Marks and Monograms of Chaffers,



JUG Earthenware, painted in black and yellow glaze

to which Mr. Nance effectively gives the quietus.

In 1786 George Haynes became a partner in the firm and so continued till 1810, being joined in 1802 by Lewis Weston Dillwyn, then a young man of cultivated tastes and keenly interested in botany and other branches of science. It was in the period of Haynes's association with the factory that some of the best Swansea wares were made; there was a large output of cream-coloured ware hardly inferior to that of Wedgwood and the Yorkshire potteries. An interesting example of this is a plate excellently painted with a coat-of-arms of very foreign appearance; it was given to the Victoria and Albert Museum as French, but was afterwards identified as Swansea by the discovery that the mark stamped on it, the spade from a pack of cards, occurs like other pips in combination with the word Swansea impressed.

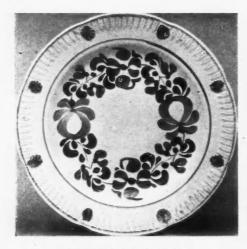
Here it may be noted that the plentiful photographic reproductions of marks are one of the useful features of the new book. The painting on this plate Mr. Nance conjectures to be by Thomas Pardoe, whose fresh unlaboured work, especially during his earlier years, entitles him to rank as one of the best of ceramic flower-painters.

A market for a large proportion of the Swansea wares was found in the country dis-tricts of South Wales and the extreme west of England, to which it was easy to carry the goods by sea from the wharf alongside the potworks. Such was the destination of the admirable earthenwares with pleasantly stylised flower-painting in colours and of the plates with curious birds or views of cottages rapidly painted in pink lustre. It seems certain that lustre wares were made in some quantity, but Mr. Nance insists that it is almost impossible to distinguish them from those made in Staffordshire and elsewhere. The same applies to the mugs with marbling or horizontal bands of different-coloured slips, which the refuse-tips prove to have been among the Cambrian Pottery's productions. Transfer-printed earthen ware, with patterns—in the earlier period—from copper-plates by an engraver from Staffordshire. Thomas Rothwell, must have forme proportion of its wares; it may be I one of the prints (Plate X, B) is a much simplified version of the Rustic Lowers after Gainsborough, which had supplied Hancock with one of his subjects for transfes to be a much found on early Worcester china.

We may refer here incidental to the deplorable "Etruscan Ware" made a out 1850 by Dillwyn's son, whose wife made by wdlerised drawings after Greek vase-paintings to be reproduced on the pottery by transfer proteing; we may also mention the Glamorgar Pottery, carried on for more than 20 years a Swansea



PLATES WITH BIRDS IN PINK LUSTRE



EARTHENWARE PLATE Coloured floral decoration

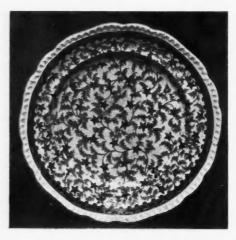


PLATE WITH ALL-OVER TRANSFER-PRINTED PATTERN

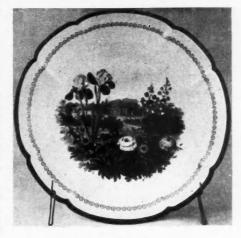
as a rival to the Cambrian, making similar kinds of earthenware.

kinds of eartherward.

Turning to porcelain, we find that Mr.

Nance has done valiantly in clearing up the mistakes of his predecessors. William Turner, in his Ceramics of Swansea and Nantgary, abetted by the collector Robert Drane, spread abroad misconceptions in which many later writers were ensnared; several of them were exposed by Herbert Eccles, who was not, however, e tirely immune. Still more regrettable exposed by made by the author of the official are errors Guide of the Welsh National Museum. of Sir A.) W. Franks" and any errors of Mr. Nance's own are W. (inste. other sm omparison and merely prove he is not supe

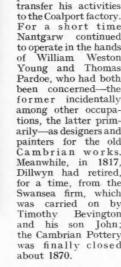
e to say that the Swansea pottery me to the arrival on the scene of wes its ingsley and his son-in-law Samuel William. llingsley had served his apprentice-Derby china works and had spent Walker. ship at afterwards in various other places many ye to discover an improved porcelain e he set up, in 1813, a china factory in seeki body, be at Nantgarw, near Cardiff; in site, Billingsley doubtless had an remoteness conducive to secret combined with the advantages of of his choosing eye to research coal supplies close at hand and a canal at the

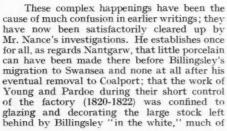


SWANSEA PORCELAIN PLATE PAINTED BY THOMAS BAXTER

Thomas Baxter, a skilled painter of academic distinction. Billing lev seems to have felt himself ousted and severed his connection with Dillwyn; he returned to Nantgarw and resumed

the manufacture of porcelain there until 1820, when John Rose persuaded him to transfer his activities to the Coalport factory. For a short time Nantgarw continued to operate in the hands of William Weston Young and Thomas Pardoe, who had both been concerned—the former incidentally among other occupa-tions, the latter primarily—as designers and painters for the old Cambrian works. Meanwhile, in 1817, Dillwyn had retired, for a time, from the Swansea firm, which was carried on by Timothy Bevington and his son John; the Cambrian Pottery was finally closed







SWANSEA PORCELAIN PLATE PAINTED BY WILLIAM POLLARD

it somewhat defective; and that at Swansea no porcelain at all can have been made after 1822-indeed, very little after 1817.

Welsh china has peculiar attractions for the collector, not merely because of its diverse though not invariable beauty, but for the good sport of identifying the numerous painters and their handiwork, for proficiency in which a careful study of Mr. Nance's book is recommended. Billingsley, though he began his life's career as a china-painter in his native town of Derby, was during his residence in Wales far too much worried with administrative and technical troubles to have much time for using his brush. His rare essays in landscape are fully discussed by Mr. Nance.

In flower-painting he has in the past been given much credit due to Pardoe—like him, a Derby man—whose style alike in flowers and in landscape and figures can generally be commended for its suitability to the medium. Young did some pleasant bird studies from nature, but his work is otherwise uninspired. Baxter, with all his skill in naturalistic painting, showed little understanding of the requirements of china decoration; incidentally, Mr. Nance points out that his arrival at Swansea was the signal for the substitution in the shapes of the wares of the Empire style then fashionable for the earlier Sèvres motives to which Billingsley had turned for inspiration. Not the pleasing of the china wares are those painted with formal or stylised floral patterns of which typical examples are reproduced in the book.

Much Welsh porcelain was decorated—often overdecorated—by enamellers in London, for Mortlock and other dealers; many examples are given. Among these is a painting described as a bird-bath, which may be recognised as a copy of the famous mosaic from Tivoli known as Pliny's Doves. An exhaustive index completes the usefulness of a work which is in every way creditable to English book-production in



NANTGARW PORCELAIN DISH WITH VIEW OF PONTYPRIDD BRIDGE BY THOMAS PARDOE

factory gate. The new venture was on the point of collapse when it was brought to the notice of Dillwyn, with the result that Billingsley and Walker were induced to remove their manufacture to the Cambrian works at Swansea. Here were made not only the beautiful translucent body stamped with the name Nantgarw but also other types devised in the search for a porcelain less liable to mishaps in the kiln and so more likely to prove commercially sound. In 1816 Dillwyn engaged as decorator

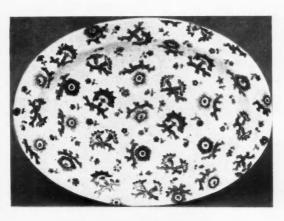
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LOND DECORATED NANTGARW late with "Pliny's Doves"



DISH, SWANSEA PORCELAIN With chintz pattern



SWANSEA PORCELAIN SAUCER Green and gold vine border

DINTON, WILTSHIRE

Dinton House, built from designs by Jeffry Wyatt 1808-16, and Hyde's House, birthplace of Lord Chancellor Clarendon, have been given this year to the National Trust by Mr. Bertram Philipps, in addition to Little Clarendon House and the cottage where in 1595 Henry Lawes the composer was born, given in 1940 by Mrs. Engleheart.

By JAMES LEES-MILNE

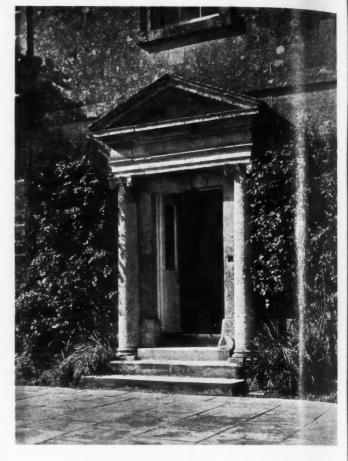
T is seldom that the National Trust acquires from different sources four houses of architectural or historic distinction in one village. This is what has happened at Dinton, a small straggling village along the main road from Salisbury to Wincanton. Dinton lies at the foot of the northern slope of the Nadder Valley, overlooking the woods of Compton Chamberlayne to the south. In 1940 Mrs. Engleheart presented Little Clarendon House with Lawes Cottage to the Trust, and then in 1943 Mr. Bertram Philipps made over Dinton House and Hyde's House. Both gifts were made on the understanding that the donors and their descendants would be allowed by the National Trust to live in one of their two houses in return for the public having access to them at stated times throughout the year.

Dinton is found mentioned in *Domesday Book* under the appellation Domnitone, and for centuries some at least, if not the whole, of it formed part of the property of the Abbey of Shaftesbury. After the dissolution of religious houses King Henry VIII in 1541 granted the manor of Dinton to the Arundell family. From them it passed to the Mayhews and from the Mayhews to the Souths.

Few facts of Dinton history are recorded during the immediate post-Reformation period. The sixteenth century, like our own, was fraught with changes of ownership in land. After the secularisation of monastic lands by the Crown, a raw class of magnates in territorial speculation sprang up, men who were to be the progenitors of the landed

gentry of conservative England in later and more refined centuries. Towards the middle of Elizabeth's reign, however, we come across a name to be familiar in English history a century hence. One, Laurence Hyde, sprung from a family that had owned land at Hyde and Norbury in Cheshire since King John's reign, married Anne, rich widow of a certain Matthew Calthurst, the owner of the rectory house and rectorial tithes at Dinton which he had impropriated. Laurence Hyde died in 1590 leaving the rectory house of Dinton back to his

widow for life and afterwards to his third son, Henry. This Henry Hyde married in 1595 Mary Langford of the Trowbridge clothier family, and came to live with his wife at Dinton, his mother having assigned to him her own life interest in the rectory. Here at least nine children were born to him, of whom the third son was Edward Hyde, later Lord Chancellor Clarendon, the father of the Duchess of York



1.—HYDE'S HOUSE. THE FRONT DOOR

and grandfather of Queens Mary and Anne. That the famous Lord Clarendon, author

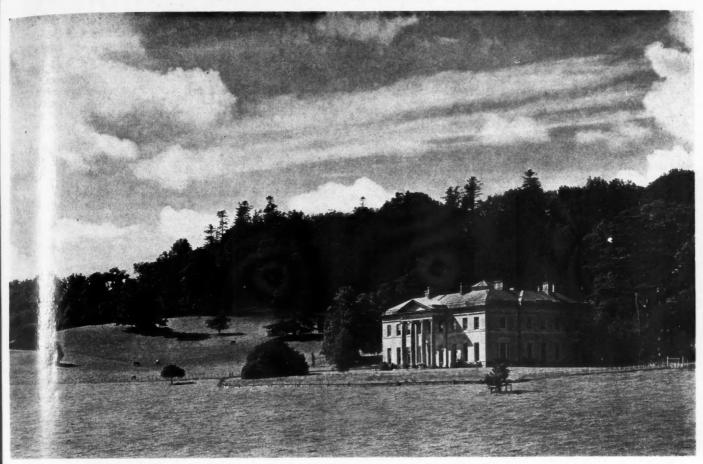
That the famous Lord Clarendon, author of the History of the Great Rebellion, was born and bred at Dinton there can be no question. He himself in his autobiography writes: "He was born in Dinton in the county of Wiltshire, in the house of his father, who was Henry Hyde." This was in 1609. John Elyard in his Wiltshire Homes, published in 1894, wrote an account of what is now called Little Clarendon House, in which he appears to be the author of a legend that the Chancellor first saw the light of day there and not at Hyde's House, then still known as the Rectory House. His evidence rests chiefly upon his own conviction that the Rectory House was not a building of sufficient standing for so illustrious a family as the Hydes, and upon the common knowledge that the Chancellor's father was not in Holy Orders. But the fact remains that there is no evidence that Little Clarendon was ever Hyde property, whereas it is known that the rectory house did belong to Henry Hyde. Henry Hyde was certainly not in Holy Orders but instead enjoyed the lay-rectorship associated with the property and which gave its name to the house. We know that upon Henry Hyde's death his Dinton property passed, not to his sons, but to an elder brother, another Laurence, himself the father of 12 sons, of whom three became knights, one Lord Chief Justice, one Prin pal of Magdalen Hall, Oxford, and another Bishop of Salisbury.

The Bishop had a son twice married who lived at Dinton and died without surviving issue. Both his wives and his two infant sons are buried in the charrel of the parish church. He was succeeded by his cousin, Robert, the son of the Principal of Magdalen Hall, who, dying in 172:, left the property to Magdalen College with which his father had been so closely associated. Magdalen College, while retaining the

Deed Land



2.—HYDE'S HOUSE. THE EARLY 18TH-CENTURY FACADE ADDED TO THE TUDOR BUILDING



3.—DINTON HOUSE. COMPLETED IN 1816 FOR THE WYNDHAM FAMILY FROM DESIGNS BY JEFFRY WYATT

rectorial tithes and the advowson of the living, sold the rectory house and the surrounding fields to Mr. Bertram Philipps in 1923. It was then that Mr. Philipps changed the name from the Rectory House, which it no longer was, to Hyde's House.

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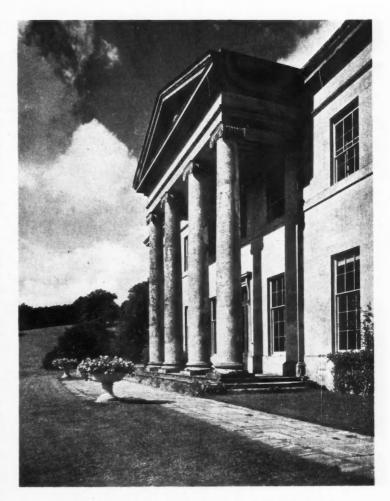
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Hyde's House, as it stands to-day (Fig. 2), would, however, scarcely be recognised by the young Edward Hyde, for the whole front has been refaced and a new roof added since his father's tenure. None the less the main walls underneath remain and several windows of Tudor date. So does the detached square pigeon-house with its oak rafters and its 600 nesting-boxes. The date of the pigeon-house, which is in excellent preservation, cannot be later than the end of the fifteenth century, and its close proximity to Hyde's House is some indication that the building may once have been larger and even have claimed manorial status.

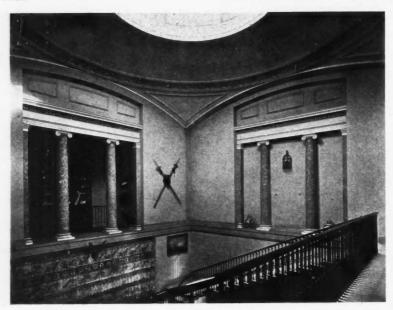
The existing south façade is a beautiful specimen of what at first glance we might classify as the lesser Wren-style country house

Now, the Wren family came from East Knoyle, a neighbouring village to Dinton, but there is no evidence to attribute Hyde's House to Sir Christopher, in spite of the fact that the celebrated architect, when Dr. Wren, was in his early years a friend of the Lord Chancellor up to the time of the latter's fall from power "with great ruin" in 1667. Here we have a strictly proportioned elevation consisting of a classical entrance between four groundfloor windows with five first-floor windows above, the three centre bays slightly projected under a pediment, with a blind oeil-de-boeuf in the tympanum. The roof is hipped in the Mansard manner and there are two dormer windows that at some time have probably been altered. The smooth grey texture of the fine ashlar the local Chilmark quarry is a remarkably sympathetic d to the magnolia tree and the crimson Virginia creeper stone fro backgro luxuriat over the south-east corner. There is no indication of exact d but from the heavy Vanbrughesque keystones of the windov he precise dentilation of the cornice and the almost Palladi mphasis upon the entrance door-head, its entablature and peo nt with boldly pulvinated frieze, the elevation cannot be muc rlier than 1720. M.

has been made of the South family being established if the Dinton property. In 1689 they sold their portion, aded the great house, to William, third son of Sir yndham of Norrington, who was a judge of the Court



4.—THE GRACEFUL IONIC PORTICO OF DINTON HOUSE



5.—DINTON HOUSE. THE STAIRCASE HALL: A TYPICAL WYATT COMPOSITION

of King's Bench and the ninth son of Sir John Wyndham of Orchard Wyndham in Somerset. This Sir John had come from Felbrigg in Norfolk which the family had owned for very many generations and which still belongs to a descendant. Six generations of William Wyndhams lived at Dinton Park till it was sold in 1916 to Mr. Philipps by the present Mr. William Wyndham who then took up residence at Orchard Wyndham. The original Dinton Park house was on practically the same site as the present one. No particulars or drawings of it have survived, though it is supposed to have been of Elizabethan or Jacobean derivation. At the beginning of the nineteenth century it was pulled down and the present edifice begun in

1808 or thereabouts to the designs of Jeffry Wyatt, whose signed plan now hangs in the house, and who is reputed to have taken Pyt House, near Tisbury, as his model. Dinton House, which was completed in 1816, most certainly bears a close resemblance in elevation to its putative prototype.

to its putative prototype. Jeffry Wyatt is probably better known under the portentously romantic nomencla-ture of Wyattville, whose theatric flavour is chiefly reflected in the public taste by his cardboard castle creations, such as at Windsor, Lilleshall and Lypiatt. But like the rest of this brilliantly versatile family of—at least—11 architects, Jeffry Wyatt is not lightly to be despised, as indeed his work at Dinton so clearly Like James, like testifies. Samuel. Jeffry could readily flit from Roman or Grecian to Gothic and back again, unrestrainedly imbibing and exhaling the spirit of each alternately. Here in Dinton House (Fig. 3) we have a remarkably accomplished example of compact masses overlaid by most clean and precise Nothing has workmanship. been done since its erection to nullify the strikingly simple design and outline of this which can best be appreciated in the strongest lights and shadows. It is of two storeys with a lead and slate roof, symmetrically set chimney stacks and central



8.—TORCHERE FOR COLZA OIL LAMP

lantern. On the south front a graceful Ionic portico does not interrupt the horizontal flow of the flat string-course and unadorned cornice. The side elevations are just as simple and, although in John Britton's published print of Dinton in his Wiltshire Beauties a pediment is depicted upon the east façade, it is improbable that this was ever carried out. Instead, the plain parapet is slightly ramped over the central break and the plainness of the façade is only relieved by the two end tripartite windows with flat instead of semicircular heads, the peculiar version of the Venetian window invented by his uncle James.

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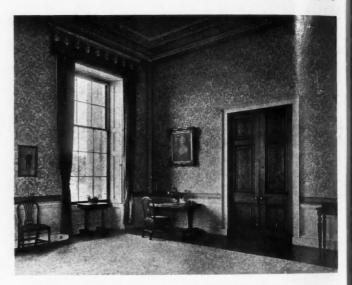
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Inside we have Wyattville at his best. The house is planned round a spacious square hall communicating with all the principal rooms. An ingenious heating system that wafts eddies of sirocco air into the stair-well and so into the other rooms was installed soon after the house was built and does service to this day. Mrs. Wyndham, writing to her son in Australia in January, 1830, says:

We have made the house delightfully warm and comjudicious alteration in the hot air stove, which if you will was always very troublesome and never answered. It is in the cellar, and the warm air conducted to the Library among as well as the Staircase and Hall, so that it is like I south of France and much more agreeable to me than Italy, to which I began to fear I should be condemned.

From the hall rises, axially with the portico en rance, a gentle flight of stone stairs with closely regimented Regency balusters that are in fact of brass (although now inted to give the appearance of bronze) under a mahogany andrail. These balusters were within living memory kep. brightly



6.—ORIGINAL BROCATELLE PAPER AND GILT CURTAIN-BOXES IN THE DRAWING-ROOM, DINTON HOUSE



7.—LATE REGENCY CHIMNEYPIECE AND STEE BRASS CHIMNEY FURNITURE

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polished and their dazzling effect, aided by the yellow scagliola columns of the hall construction, must evidently have outbalanced the humdrum anxieties aroused by the household staff of those ampler days. The domed roof over the hall culminating in a circular lantern supported by engaged columns rests upon a typically Wyatt construction of open and blind arcades that form the first-floor landing The Wyatts loved playing with segmental lines (Fig. 5). effry allowed himself full scope. At the foot of and here the stairs are a splendid pair of contemporary torchères for mps (Fig. 8) now fitted for electric lighting. colza oil A SE

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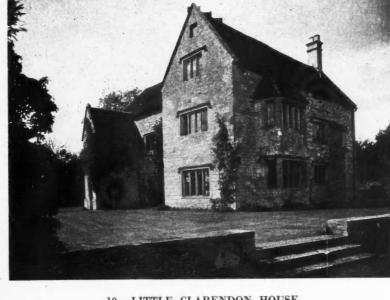
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(Fig. 7)

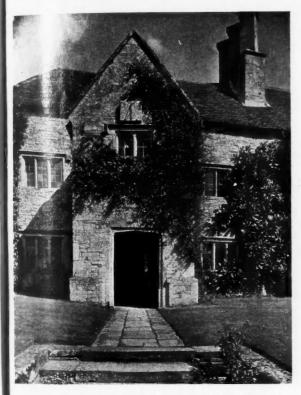
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ion is shown in Fig. 6 of the drawing-room, still th a contemporary brown and gold brocatelle ing the simple gilt curtain boxes with their le drops. All the mahogany double doors on floor are of the same high quality and finish as trated. The drawing-room marble chimneypiece of unostentatious design, whereas the grate with gryphon supports and steel fender with applied mentation are in the best Greek revival taste. ouse contains several pieces of period furniture



10.—LITTLE CLARENDON HOUSE



9.—THE PORCH, LITTLE CLARENDON HOUSE

11.—THE HALL OF LITTLE CLARENDON HOUSE

dating from the building for which presumably they were made. The house was leased some years ago by Mr. Philipps at a nominal rent to the Y.W.C.A. for use as a Holiday Home, and is now known as Philipps House. With Little Clarendon House, as it is now called, we are at once plunged into an earlier cultural age (Fig. 10). After the classic severity of Dinton House we return to what is purely English, traditional and still mediæval. Until 1901, when it was purchased by the late Rev. George Engleheart, the house was known by the name of Clarendon, quite simply, and had sunk to the status of a farm dwelling. To Mr. Engleheart and his widow is due the credit of reconditioning it. The house probably dates from the late fifteenth century, although the beautiful little two-storeyed porch (Fig. 9), set askew to the main building, the great chimney stack and the window mullions with their ovolo moulds re obviously of slightly later date. Wiltshire is rich in ouses of this period and character and Little does not fall short of the best of them. Over a Clarend number years Mrs. Engleheart has added an interesting collection of English furniture and china to what she had previou . The garden and orchards at the back nherited. e display in the springtime a great variety of of the

s from bulbs bred by Mr. Engleheart. Th atched stone cottage in Fig. 12, separated from Little endon by a huge yew tree and forming part of the sa gift, is the home of the 17th-century composer, awes, known in his lifetime as the "Father of Willia Musick and killed fighting for the King at Chester in 1643,

rare da



12.—LAWES COTTAGE

IMPROVING

A Golf Commentary by BERNARD DARWIN

HOSE who listen spellbound to the Brains Trust have grown accustomed to the appalling posers (how warmly do they thank heaven that they have not got to answer them!) dealing with such abstract questions as which is the most inspiring virtue or the greatest pleasure in life. Probably some eminent person has already given the answer which constantly occurs to me, namely that one of the keenest of all pleasures is that of consciously improving in some pursuit. If anyone is inclined to disagree let him cast his mind back to remembering the joy of first wobbling unaided on a bicycle. A kind hand had supported him for a while and then been privily withdrawn, so that he found himself on a sudden progressing of his own motion. That was a delicious moment, the more so from the knowledge that there could be no going back the art once mastered had been acquired for ever. Or take skating again. After the first halting movements had been accomplished, there came the instant of getting for the first time, however briefly, on to the outside edge; and then a little later the first three, with a very scrapy, scratchy turn and an imperfect finish, but still a three of sorts. That was as far as ever I got, and the three was hardly worthy of the name, but I can still remember the thrill of it; and so, I feel sure, can many others who subsequently rose to immeasurably greater heights and performed complex and combined evolutions circling from an orange

Golf has joys just as poignant and memorable to give as we can all recollect, from the first carrying of a bunker which had previously defied us. Perhaps in those happy and longdeparted times, when improvement came almost automatically with increasing growth, that bunker had steadily beaten us during all one holiday, and behold! when the next holiday came we sailed over it with glorious ease. Let not the reader fear that I am going to inflict all my memories of such improvement upon him, but there is one I will record, as the story incident at once pleasing and shameful. When I was at school and about 16 or 17 years old, I used to go out with a cleek and a ball or two into a certain playing-field at a time when nearly everybody else was at work and the field lay beautifully solitary. My best cleek shot from one end would regularly finish at the foot of a railing some six or eight feet high at the other; the railing seemed inexorably to mark my limitations. And then one morning my ball pitched clean over it. As I watched it, my ecstatic eye became aware of something it had not noticed before, namely a lone wayfarer hobbling along the roadway beyond the railings. A second later I saw the ball pitch precisely on that wayfarer's toe.

What I ought doubtless to have done was to race across the field and express my sorrow. What I did was to dodge behind a large and convenient tree and watch the poor man, clearly in some anguish, looking from heaven to earth and earth to heaven and wondering whence in all that lonely landscape the missile had come. Finally he gave the ball an angry kick with his uninjured foot and proceeded very slowly on his walk, while I remained disgracefully hidden behind my tree till his footsteps died away in the distance. I was grateful to him for not having pocketed the ball, since balls then were almost as rare and I was a little conscience precious as to-day. stricken; but my dominant feeling was that of joy in my improvement, for here was the clearest evidence that I had become a longer cleekplayer than before. Could a poor old gentleman's toe weigh in the balance against that? It could not.

The classical example of such improvement is that of James Braid, who went to bed a short driver and woke up next morning a permanently long one. Well, "he himself has said it," and

therefore it must be true. It was, moreover, only a very pronounced example of a phenome non observable in the career of any young golfer. I remember a great many years ago playing with Albert Tingey, then the pro-fessional at Brancaster, and of his saying encouragingly that to anyone who pegged steadily away there came a time when he suddenly felt himself a better golfer than ever before. Being in rather a depressed mood at the time I did not believe him, but something of what he had prophesied did, I think, come true in my own case, and generally speaking does come true. An often quoted instance is that of the R. H. de Montmorency, who, having the childish complaint of whooping-cough, had to go away for several weeks from Eton, where he was a master, and spent this enforced holiday golfing two rounds a day at Rye. He had been of course a good player before and the captain of an Oxford side, but from that spell of continuous golf he emerged a player of an alto-gether higher class than before. His magical moment had come, and how good he was afterwards is well known. There was no catch in this magic as there is in the spells of wicked enchanters in fairy stories. There was no going back.

The mention of Oxford reminds me of what I take to be one of the most rapid of recorded improvements. Only a comparatively few people, I am afraid, will now recall the late J. L. Humphreys of B.N.C., who played for Oxford in 1903 and 1904, for he afterwards went abroad and was little seen on British courses. Those who do remember him will, I am sure, agree with me in rating him very high among university players; he was a really good golfer, with a notably compact style, most economical of effort. I have always been told that when he came up he had hardly played at all and had a handicap of 16 or even 18. Moreover he was a good football player and did not give all his leisure to golf. Yet under 's eye he improved so much that in his third year he played second in the Oxford side, and in his fourth was its leader and murdered a good Cambridge opponent by an unkind num-

Even when, from one cause or another, so great a general improvement is out of the question, there may be much of the same keen pleasure in mastering some one branch of the golfing art. I remember very well, at the Open

Championship of 1931, watching Cotton at Carnoustie, where six years later he become Champion for the second time. He had then recently come back from the United States where he had made a prolonged stay, had sat at the feet of various of the great professionals there, and in particular had become a devotee of the "inside out" method of swinging the club. of the 'Inside out' interiod of swinging the club. He had mastered it, but not so completely as he later did. To-day, if we watch him, there is little more than a suggestion of the turn of the ball in the air from right to left, but at Carnoustie in that year the bend in the ball's flight was very considerable. It was sometimes a little alarming and seemed as if it might get out of control, but it was fun to watch and looked as if it must be fun to produce. I imprined the player having a pleasure in it as a ne accomplishment. In fact it was much more than that, for I think Cotton was definitely a better and more formidable player after that e cational pilgrimage to America.

There is a dark as well as a brig at side to most things, and sometimes golfers i prove so fast at first that they become angry come to a halt and seem not to improve any I recall one, a fine player at other games, having great physical streng h and a natural eye for a ball, who after play ously for two years came down very hearly to scratch. Perhaps he was actually scratch at some not very distinguished club, for standards of handicapping varied then and were in no case so high as to-day. There followed the almost inevitable time, when he thought he ought to get better still and did not. After a while he gave up the game a disgust and found that he was much happier in amusing himself with a little domestic shooting with a bow and arrow.

* * *

That player showed heroic determination and reaped the reward of it in peace of midd, but his is to me rather a sad story nevertheless. I will not, however, allow it to affect my opinion that there is nothing so pleasant as improving, and I am the more convinced of it, when nothing of the kind can possibly be expected to happen to me. After a certain time it is a pleasure only to be enjoyed vicariously. As far as he himself is concerned the most the player can hope for is a not too rapid movement in the wrong direction. And yet stay! there is always putting. Heaven knows there is plenty of room for improvement there, and a man is seldom so decrepit that he cannot putt. My aluminium putter ho! Likewise my cleek with the curly neck. Let me out on to the patch of muddy grass outside my window with one nice big hole in it. Even at this eleventh hour the true inspiration may be vouchsafed.

BUSH FRUITS

OR the past four years, bush fruits of all kinds have met with increasing favour among all ranks of gardeners, thanks to exhortations of the Ministry of Agriculture to plant more fruit and to the gardener's own desire to fortify his larder. So great has been the demand that, in places, supplies of some kinds have been difficult to come by and of some kinds have been difficult to come by and many varieties of established reputation before the war are now almost unobtainable in plants of any size.

It is surely a good sign that we are witnessing a resurrection of bush fruit cultivation, for many gardeners, before the outbreak of hostilities, missed much by not growing their own bush fruits. Now that they have sampled the enjoyment of home-produced fruits and realise that their successful cultivation is not a difficult business even in a small garden, there will be few who will be likely to neglect them in the future. It is not too much to neglect them in the future. It is not too much to say that every garden of any size should carry its quota of bush fruit if only to provide a few welcome dishes of freshly picked berries in the summer and, if possible, to give a surplus for jamming and bottling for the winter. They are not difficult to grow or train. Their pruning is easily mastered once the grower is acquainted with their habit of growth, and the few pests and diseases to which like most other plants, they diseases to which, like most other plants, they are heir can be easily controlled by approved prophylactic methods that are now well known.

Perhaps the most popular and the one most

to be desired in the war-time garden for its high content of Vitamin C is the black currant. Catholic in its tastes, it can be trusted to succeed in a wide range of soils except those which dry out in sum and in any average garden soil that has been well dug and manured it will seldom disappoint An open and sunny situation, but enjoying some shelter from cold winds from the north and east, is the best position for it, the shelter being necessary to ensure effective pollination of the flowers which appear early in the year and are liable to suffer from frosts or cold winds if open to full exposure. The trouble known as "running off" which shows itself in the tendency of the berries not to develop properly but to drop off, is perfect fertilisation caused by cold winds exposure, and the provision of adequate will go a long way towards remedying the state of the control of the contr ue to im r undue trouble

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by providing suitable conditions for por Firm planting is essential to su after planting it is sound policy to cut the well back to ensure the production of 1 strong shoots the following season. He the knife should be used to remove all the which has carried fruit and so maintagrowth from the base of the bush, as dener will never go far wrong if he errs or side when doing the pruning. To ove bushes is a mistake, and if they are rows, allow at least 5 ft. between the foot less between the bushes. One eties like Boskoop Giant appreciate even

and 6 ft. all round is not too much to give the more vigorous growers. After-treatment only involves keeping the ground round the bushes free from weeds by shallow hoeing and the application of a mulch of organic manure in the form of decayed compost, old mushroom-bed manure or, better still, material from farm-yard or stables.

Regular spraying, too, is necessary to check the attacks of aphides and the prevalent big bud disease. A winter wash of tar oil will control the former, while a lime-sulphur spray given when the flowers are on the point of opening will check the latter as well as the virus disease known as reversion, the symptoms of which are evident in the appearance of nettle-like foliage and the abs — ce of fruit. There are several varieties to choose from, but with such kinds as the late Baldwin, Boskoop Giant, Edina, Daniel — September and The Raven, no one will go far wrong, althoug — the wise gardener will profit from the experience of others in his particular district and plump for those varietie which give a good account of themselves in the local

we black currants are comfortable, room should also be found of a few red currants and gooseberries, both of which appreced much the same conditions of soil and situation. As black currant, two-year-old bushes are the best for planting grown from the cordon of the cor

As regards cultural treatments, they differ little from it lick currants, on the whole. They have not got quite the voracious appetite and are satisfied with less rectaing in the way of surface mulches of organic manure. They do appreciate a dressing of sulphate of potash, however, which in these days can only be supplied as bonfire ash. The first pruning of the bushes, whether red currants or gooseberries, consists simply in cutting the shoots back to three or four buds of their base with the aim of building up a good framework of branches.

With cordons all the side shoots should be cut back to the basal buds and the growths being trained for extension shortened by about half their length. Of varieties there is quite a wide selection, at least in normal times, but with Laxton's No. 1, Earliest of Fourlands and Rivers' Late Red among red currants, and Whinham's Industry, Lancer, Leveller and Langley Gage among gooseberries, no one will go far wrong in making a small collection.

No kitchen garden is complete without a row of raspberries, and, although failures with this fruit have been frequent in late years, the reason is to be found more in unsuitable soil conditions and in the particular variety than anything else. Experience has shown that certain varieties do much better in some districts than others, and also that certain kinds after perfectly satisfactory behaviour for a few years begin to deteriorate, owing largely to the attacks of virus disease. With raspberries it is especially important to select clean stock true to name, and for this reason it is desirable to procure canes from reliable growers. Pyne's Royal, Red Cross, Norfolk Giant and Lloyd George are four reliable varieties that, if planted in well-prepared ground, will give a good account of themselves for a few years, and to these can be added the Hailsham Berry for autumn fruit

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ONE OF THE NEW ADDITIONS TO THE LIST OF BLACK CURRANTS, THE RAVEN—A GOOD AND VALUABLE CROPPER



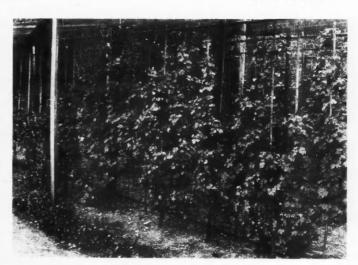
RASPBERRY LLOYD GEORGE
A good all-round variety for general garden cultivation

Thorough soil preparation at the time of planting is well repaid, and the same can be said of frequent surface cultivation during the late spring to keep down weeds and conserve soil moisture. It is important, however, that fork or hoe is kept as near the surface as possible, as the raspberry is surface-rooting, and there should be no disturbance of the roots. Newly planted canes should be cut down to within about a foot of ground level to encourage the production of new and strong shoots the following season, while the after-pruning treatment simply consists in removing the old canes that have fruited at ground level and tying the new canes to their supporting wires, allowing about five or six to each crown, spaced 6 ins. apart.

The loganberry and the blackberry need no recommendation. Their respective virtues are well enough known, and the gardener will doubtless find space for both in his borders. The same cannot be said, unfortunately, of some of the newer hybrid berries which are still comparatively little known. Many of these are fruits of distinct value, however, especially in the war-time garden, and no gardener will regret the inclusion of one or two plants of such kinds as the Boysenberry, a combination of raspberry and blackberry, the Worcesterberry, Bedford Giant, the John Innes blackberry a splendid late-ripening sort, and the newer Merton Thornless, both raised at the John Innes Institution, the Youngberry, Phenomenal Berry and the cut-leaved blackberry which produces berries of excellent flavour when grown on good well-cultivated ground. All these berries are plants of vigorous, even rampant, growth, and it is not too much to set them 10 ft. apart, and cut out every year all the old canes that have fruited to encourage the development of new and young fruiting wood.

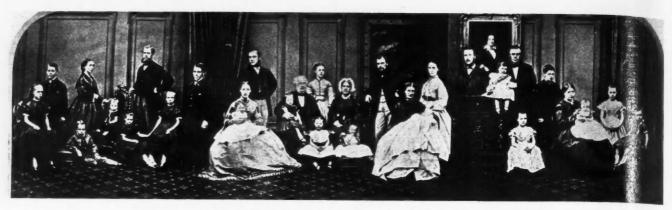
G. C. TAYLOR.





CORDON-TRAINED GOOSEBERRIES AND RED CURRANTS IN A GARDEN AT PETWORTH
A type well suited to the restricted space of the small kitchen garden

VICTORIAN PHOTOGRAPHS-III



COMPOSITE PHOTOGRAPH OF THE COUPER FAMILY, ABOUT 1871

Sent by Mrs. Hope Hughes, 23, Berkeley Square, Bristol. The grandparents are in the middle with their sons' families, and on the right and left are the families of the daughters

N this page and the next appears a third and last selection of Victorian photographs submitted in connection with our recent Competition. The result was announced in our issue of December 3.

All the prints have now been returned except four, apparently torn from an album, depicting Oxford boat crews of 1863 and a croquet party headed "Stanley Gardens, 1866." These were sent to us without any clue to their origin. If the owner will communicate with the Editor they will be returned at once.

(Right) GOLF AT ABERDOVEY, 1892

Sent by Mrs. Ruck, Pantlludw, Machynlleth, Montgomeryshire.

The boy in the tam-o'-shanter is now Mr. Bernard Darwin, who at our request has kindly supplied the following note:

The player hitting the ball (my uncle, Colonel, afterwards Major-General, Sir R. M. Ruck) is taking his driver from snow in the bottom of the bunker called Cader and is hitting in the opposite

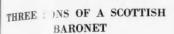




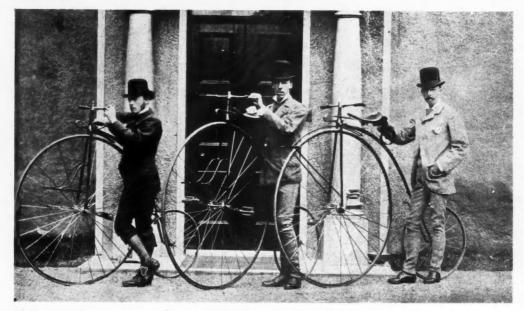
direction to the hole. Next to him is my father, (the late Sir Francis Darwin) then another uncle, the late Colonel Arthur Ruck, then me in a tamo'shanter with my skates by my side. I was fifteen. There is yet another uncle, Lt.-Col. O. E. Ruck, holding his skates, behind my father, and my grandfather. Laurence Ruck, is holding his hat on in the wind at the back. Behind me is Mr. W. V. Thomas, first honorary secretary of the club.

(Left) THE B ATERS, ABOUT 1 38

Sent by Mrs. V. H. Higgins, Newstead, Bradbor ne Park Road, Sevenoaks, ent, who writes: I have lard that the head beater used to wear a wreath round his hat—preferably of paper wers—lo distinguish him from the rest. Can any of your readers remember this?



Sent C.W.I., Edinburgh.



SHOOTING PARTY AT WARTER PRIORY, YORKSHIRE

Sent by Mr. Cyril Drummond, Cadland Cottage, Fawley, Southampton, who writes: The Priory was then owned by Lord Muncaster. The figure in , the top-hat is Lord George Quin. I never saw him wearing any other hat even in the country. The gun held by the sportsman on the left appears to be pin-fire.

WEDDING GROUP: ABOUT 1860-5

Sent by Miss A. Maude Thompson, 4, Ashley Garden Tunbridge W. Kent.



CORRESPONDENCE

DREDGING THE RIVER WISSEY

SIR,—I read the letter of Mr. J. C. T. Mills in your issue of November 5 about the dredging of the River Wissey in South-west Norfolk with great regret and consternation.

Having formerly lived for many years on an estate bounded on one side by a long stretch of that river below him, I would like to endorse every word he says, and not merely from the point of view of an angler lamenting the threatened ruin of the rest of a grand trout stream.

It is well known that the waterlevel all over England is steadily getting lower, owing to excessive pumping. Water should be conserved that the rest of the Wissey may be saved from what can only be termed useless vandalism.—H. UNDERDOWN, Harbrook, Ramsbury, Wiltshire.

A PRISONERS OF WAR GROUP

SIR,—I wonder if the enclosed photograph would be of interest to your readers.

My son—Major G. G. Smyth. R.A.M.C., sixth from the left—was visiting a hospital at the time this photograph was taken. He has been a prisoner of war since Dunkirk. He is in charge of a hospital attached to Stalag IX C, but visits other hospitals as a consultant. The photograph was taken in July. They are all doctors

cakes! . . . Have just (10 p.m.) come in from walking round cur gardens which are lovely with colour and scents from stocks and baccy plants and sweet peas. . . We have had big thrills here lately—saw two day raids clearly—in all about 10 million pounds' worth of F.F. 'planes. One brought down and one man landed near Camp. I hope he heard us cheer as he rose to his feet! . . . Have had a lot of cricket—with some success—and have acquired a small garden to weed and tend. Keep on being cheerful as it looks as if we are on last lap of war even if it is a long one."

-NANCY GEE, at Cloverley, Chinley, Derbyshire.

A ZULU ON THE BOB

SIR,—In Major Anthony Buxton's delightful little illustrated article A Zulu on the Bob in Country Life of October 29, followed by his poem on the same subject in the next number of November 5, it would appear that he is not aware of any other name for his fly than Bibio pomone. Anglers have, however, named it the heather fly; quite a good name, as its habitat is on the high heather-covered moorlands.

Quoting a verse from Major Buxton's lay:

They cruise upon their little wings With dangling legs behind And plane down from the hill-tops A Scottish loch to find.

Some 20 years ago, Mr. Martin E. Mosely, the author of The Dry-fly Fisherman's Entomology, wrote a short article in the Fishing Gazette on the heather fly; otherwise practically no mention is made of it in any angling book that I know of. The reason, I suppose, is that it is seldom seen on streams, but only on lakes in upland moor country during August.—John Henderson, Ashford, Talybont-on-Usk, Brecon.



A GROUP OF DOCTOR PRISONERS OF WAR Sec Metter: A Prisoners of War Group

and not got rid of as quickly as possible.

A similar dredging scheme was proposed early this year on the Wiltshire Kennet. Water-meadows in the true sense of the term were to be "dried" by deepening the bed of the river 2 or 3 ft. (Incidentally to be effective dredging schemes would have to by-pass mills.) Some two miles of river were to be dredged to "dry" about 400 acres of meadow. I doubt whether the Wissey acreage of riverside meadows reaches even this small proportion per mile. Fortunately the Thames Conservancy were called on to make a report which showed that the expenditure involved would be out of all proportion to any benefit to be obtained agriculturally, to say nothing of the ruin of valuable fishing rights. It is now intended to mend banks, remove mud and keep ditches clear, which is all that is required if obstructions are also kept down. Anyone who has tried to keep a stretch of river free from débris of all kinds which accumulates and hinders a free flow of water, in these days of no water-keepers and lack of albour, can testify that even when sluice gates are kept in good order and at their right level day by day, the flow of water under them is often impeded by a mass of tangled stuff of all kinds, especially after weed-cutting, which in these days is often neglected.

The Holy Brook, near Reading, a lovely stream, has been completely ruined already by dredging without anyone in that neighbourhood being able to understand what agricultural benefit can accrue. Along its whole length are huge banks of gravel and sand, just as depicted in the photograph of the upper Wissey accompanying Mr. Mills's letter.

I understand that Mr. Mills has now been informed that he need not re-seed the meadows along the dredged section, which was given as one of the reasons for ruining the river!

Finally the land in that part of Norfolk, the lightest in England, will never make good arable. Once start dredging and you must continue to do so. Drainage is one thing, dredging quite another. It is much to be hoped

with the exception of the padre.— LILIAN V. SMYTH, Balderstone Vicarage, near Blackburn.

JULIUS CÆSAR AT OFLAG IX A/H

SIR,—Since the appearance of my photographs of the cast of *Julius Cæsar* at Oflag IX A/H last year in COUNTRY LIFE in August I have had a letter from Lieutenant-Colonel L. Mercer, R.M., identifying Cassius as Surgeon-Lieutenant A. P. Waind, R.N.V.R., from Yorkshire, who "was captured at Calais with the company of Royal Marines sent to reinforce the garrison in 1940." He said I could make what use I liked of this information, so I thought that I would send it on te you in case other of Lieutenant Waind's friends should be interested.

I also enclose some further extracts from letters from my husband Major C. H. Rodney Gee, discussing mainly the odd sort of hockey played at the camp, and their recent views of the R.A.F. in action. The fact that he wrote on the day it happened (July 26) of Mussolini's fall, shows that they get news through pretty quickly and accurately.

"I wonder where we shall spend our next Easter together and whether there is really much hope of next. I think there is, though I refuse to bank on a speedy end. Cricket to-day after cinema (we have had four shows in the last 12 days and quite good). Have also had lots of hockey. I captain our Room team, which is Rée back, Christopherson half, Feneley forward, and self forward-forward.

captain our koom team, which is kee back, Christopherson half, Feneley forward, and self forward-forward.

The pitch is 50 ft. long about 9 ft. wide on average, and you can't see one goal from the other owing to curve of moat. Wall on one side and unreliable grass bank on other which is out of bounds for feet but not for the ball. Sticks and balls (composition) are almost worn out, but it is fun. Shall need some more antiseptic ointment as we lose skin each time! We get lettuce almost daily from our gardens, and the flowers are good and room is full of them.

I am doing our Mess for week and have had successes with puddings and biscuits fried in margarine—just like pan-

STRIPED HAWK MOTH

From Lord Methuen.

SIR,—There is no doubt that the moth we saw last September in our garden was a striped, and not an elephant, hawk moth. It was not until I listened to a broadcast a little time after I had written to you in which reference was made to a comparatively large number of the rare striped hawk moth seen in England this year, that I realised that my first choice as to identification—

that my first choice as to identification—set aside as most unlikely owing to the rarity of this species—had probably been the correct one. This your correspondents have now confirmed. I am sorry to hear that our winter does not suit this moth; nevertheless we will continue to grow tobacco plants if only in the fond hope of attracting another of these gay wanderers or perhaps a near relation. — METHUEN, 6, Primrose Hill Studios, Fitzroy Road, Regent's Park, N.W.I.

BULL STONES

Sir,—At one time, I understand, it was illegal for any butcher to slaughter for food a bull which had not been baited: the severe exercise being said to make the meat tender. This stone, to which the bull was tethered, is still to be seen at Leslie in Fife. The remains of another, which had been

broken up and removed, but replaced in response to popular outcry, is to be found at Fossoway, in the neighbouring county of Kinross-shire. Besides these two I know of no others in Scotland.—R. K. HOLMES, Tod's Field, Dollar, Scotland.

THE TRAVELS OF COUNTRY LIFE

SIR.—I apologise for re-opening old correspondence, but my COUNTRY LIFE arrives very late. I see in your number of June 11 a letter on the travels of COUNTRY LIFE. My mother gets COUNTRY LIFE, whence it goes to my aunt and sister-in-law at home and thence to my brother in India who sends it on to me. I ir turn send it to my brother in Southerr Rhodesia, who finally passes it on to the hospitals. This must be a party good record.

While I was in Di dawa in Ethiopia in July, 1942, I and in an Italian house a copy of Corpora Life published in 1924. It was all in good condition.—G. G., Sudan.

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BECCAFICOS IN UVPRUS

From Sir Bartle Frere.

SIR,—When I lived in Cyprus (1897-1902), I understood the becafico to be mostly the Sardinian warbler.

The peasants said that they arrived on the backs of the migratory cranes. In this connection you will find in Guillemard's Cruise of the Marchesa an account of a crane being shot in the Aegean by one member of the party, and a lot of these small birds being seen in the air immediately.—Bartle Frere, Mangreen Hall, Norwich.

SIR,—In A Countryman's Notes in the issue of COUNTRY LIFE for October 8, Major Jarvis asks if any reader can tell him the name of the bird which is known as the beccafico in Cyprus.

It is now definitely established that the bird is the well-known blackcap (Sylvia a. atricapilla), Cyprus being situated on the migratory route of the blackcap from Europe to Africa. It is during the migration period that countless thousands of these well-known songsters are slaughtered and potted down for future use.

Mention was made some time ago



WHERE THE BULL WAS TIE FOR

See letter: Bull, Stones



CTURED IN TERRA TO COMMEMORATE COTT. O DAUGHTERS

See let : A Home-made Tombstone

rrespondence columns of the LIFE of purple gallinules at in the North of England. COUNTRY being cau years before the war a pair birds escaped from my of these s a d have not been heard of These were Porphyrio polioaviaries a cephalus iron since. These were Forphyto Politiciphalus from Asia, a somewhat lighter hird than the European P. coeruleus, but I doubt if they could have strayed so far north.—Sydney Porter, The White Gates, Stenson

A HOME-MADE TOMBSTONE

SIR,—You occasionally publish illustrations of unusual tombstones, and may be interested to see the accompanying photograph which shows a home-made terra cotta tombstone. It was made early in the eighteenth century by William Sefton to commemorate his two daughters. Sefton was a manufacturer of clay pines and was a manufacturer of clay pipes and other earthenware articles. Wishing to erect a memorial to his daughters he fashioned a tablet in clay, inscribed it, and fired it in his trade ovens. The result was the rough but durable tombstone shown in my photograph.

The memorial may be seen at St. Mary's Church, Nottingham.—
A. W. Bull, Beeston, Nottinghamshire.

AN OLD BAROMETER

SIR,—In your issue of December .3 is a letter entitled A Dial Missing. I have a barometer like that shown, which has a clock just above the

weather glass with the original works still in going order. The empty circle shown at the top in your illustration for atmospheric moisture—in mine has a brass plate with "Dry" engraved on one side (the left) and "Damp" on the right, across the centre of the circle and with the figures of 10, 20, 30 engraved on the edge of the circle each side to show the degrees of of the carrier of the carrier of the carrier of dryness and/or moisture. Through the centre of the brass plate is a neat spike to which is attached a sprig of spike to which is attached a sping of flax. It still functions: in dry weather it droops down on the "Dry" side and in wet weather on the "Damp" side. — WILFRID CHRISTOPHERSON, Bluegates, Park Road, Ipswich.

PENTREHOBYN AND RUFFORD

-The three elaborately designed finials (illustrated on November 19) which surmount the movable screen in the Great Hall of Rufford Old Hall, Lancashire, create an enigma which, as far as I am aware, has never been satisfactorily solved.

Satisfactority solved.

Your correspondent, Mr. W. J.

Hemp, sees in them a close relationship to the fragment of
the Ysbur at Pentrehobyn,

and Mr. Hussey suggests that this relationship may have traditional origins, the design of the Rufford finials being derived from "corn dollies," survivals of pagan votive or pro-pitiatory efferings.

After an examination of the screen and its finials it is not easy to reconcile these suggestions with the impression that the fantas-tic ornamentations create. They appear dramatic in their surroundings, being totally foreign to the late Gothic decoration with which the Hall abounds. There seems to be no doubt that the finals were added that the finials were added to the screen at some later date and evidence of this can be discerned in the method employed to achieve an effective juxtaposition. The finials are supported on the screen by three capitals whose design is of a transitory character linking up the Gothic orna-ment of the screen with the Orientalism of the finials. A deep pit has been hewn in the top of the screen into which the centre capital has been bedded. This

has brought about a pleasing harmony which would not have been possible had the finials been fixed directly to

the top of the screen.

To describe the design of the finials or to draw any analogy is certainly difficult. They could be likened to elaborately plaited straw, as Mr. Hussey suggests, or as Mr. H. Avray Tipping described them in his account of the building (COUNTRY LIFE, Vol. LXVI, Nos. 1709-10) as "ponderous additions of which the chief motif is a clustering of much twisting cornucopias," or again, to quote the Victoria County History, as "of somewhat bizarre and oriental "of somewhat bizarre and oriental character, but harmonising in a grotesque kind of way with the late Gothic ornament around them." It is possible that the Pentrehobyn fragment formed a finial end of a screen such as that at Rufford, but it requires great imagination to see any relation-ship in the design.

what then is the answer to these enigmatic finials? What is the motif and how is it to be described? To what country? To what period? Suggestions are numerous, and I have heard many put forward by visitors to the Hall. Some consider them late Jacobean. Others are inclined to the view that they originated in some Eastern country and were brought to Liverpool during the East India Liverpool during the East India trading days of the eighteenth century.

is led to the conclusion that the æsthetic behind their creation did not spring from Western inspiration. is emphasised by the appearance here and there among the wild, almost surrealistic, fantasy of the finials, of skulls which stare out from the coiling maze like warrior-heads at a pagan sacrificial feast.

Perhaps some reader could offer a clue towards solving the mystery of these fascinating ornaments.—Philip ASHCROFT, JUNIOR, Hon. Curator, Rufford Village Museum, Holy Villa, Rufford, near Ormskirk, Lancashire.

HUNTING IN **LEICESTERSHIRE**

SIR,—The picture in the style of John Leech (1817-64). reproduced in *Collectors' Questions* (COUNTRY LIFE, November 12), surely cannot be by that artist. If it was, as you suggest, drawn about 1860 Leech would be 43 at the time and at the height of his best work. This is not a very good drawing, in my opinion, and not at all in the same class as Leech's work. It looks to me more like an amateur's picture of two more like an amateur's picture of two



A LEECH DRAWING AT THE GARRICK CLUB: THE NEW PURCHASE Mr. Muff: "Why, they said he was well known in this Hunt!" Farmer: "Oh yes! He's very well known—he's broken more collar-bones than all the 'orses in England' See letter: Hunting in Leicestershire

That a fashion existed for such orna-nients is evident, for similar finials decorated the screen of another Lanca-shire hall, Salmesbury, east of Preston, but that screen and its finials are now no more. Whatever the answer, one hunting friends. I am looking at 25 original drawings by Leech in the Garrick Club as I write and they are all brilliant. Leech was a member of the Club from 1849 until his death. It is worth remarking that there are 29 horses in these sketches and they are all (except four in one drawing) moving from right to left (contrary. moving from right to left (contrary to those in your reproduction) and Leech mostly drew them that way, I think. He did not slur over detail of conformation, bone, muscle or sinew. He gave them all with a sure and masterly touch as in the accompanymasterly touch as in the accompanying reproductions; very different from your correspondent's drawing.

—K. A. PLIMPTON (I.t.-Col.), Secretary, Garrick Club, W.C.2.

EYES IN THE DARK

SIR,—Having read Major Jarvis's interesting Notes a propos the shining eyes of certain animals, and your invitation to readers for further experiences of a like nature, I venture to relate an experience of my own while I was employed as a lad down the local mine.

This particular mine, being deep and warm, was literally overrun by mice, and the presence of a cat was necessary. This animal, when fed-up with its usual pony-stable quarters, used to take an occasional stroll "down the roads."

My job at the time was the



THE FOUR-IN-HAND CLUB. SKETCH BY JOHN LEECH See letter: Hunting in Leicestershire



BENEVOLENCE

See letter: An Unusual Charity

running of a jig which went at a gradient of 1 in 3 for a distance of 200 and more yards, the only illumination for which was the old-fashioned "danny" or oil-lamp. The light-range of such a lamp is extremely limited; yet, as I was taking a train of coals up this jig one day, I saw far in front of me two pin-points of light which became larger the nearer I approached them. As I was only in my early teens and rather susceptible to the implied fantasies of underground conditions, my reactions to this occurrence were not of the bravest for the moment, for I hopped off the train and dived into a refugehole, to collect my wildly-imagining

Now at the time I spotted those eyes they were quite a hundred yards away, certainly distant enough to be unaffected by the light hanging on

my belt; and darkness in a pit is Stygian in quality, I can assure you. Whether feline eyes have or have not these debatable qualities, those I saw on that occasion were too bright for my juvenile peace of

May I add, as a new reader of Country LIFE, how very much I enjoy Major Jarvis's Notes, as indeed I do Notes, as indeed the whole paper.—J.

RD, Eastwood,

SIR,—In a recent issue of COUNTRY LIFE Major

Jarvis raised the question whether animals' eyes have the power of light in themselves when they shine in the dark, or are merely acting as reflectors. I should say the latter surely: the eyes would be invisible in total darkness, though probably even starlight would be enough to render them visible in some cases

I have shot crocodiles in Malay creeks with the aid of a motor-car headlight mounted in the bows of a sampan. Crocodiles, as is well known, often lie with only the nestrils and eyes above water. As the ray from a headlight catches them the eyes shine red with considerable brilliance: ey look exactly like the red dis on the rear mudguard of a bicycle as the light from an overtaking motorist shines upon it, but rather smaller. The pcint is the crocodile's eyes are absolutely invisible until the light touches them.

tree-covered mangrove creeks are generally pitch dark.

Incidentally, why is it that the human animal's eyes do not reflect light—or do they as a recent correspondent asserted? The eyes of a dog, dent asserted? The eyes of a dog, cat, sheep or cow reflect the lights of one's car at night, but a man's do not; or am I wrong in thinking so?—W. B. ELWES, Pett, Sussex.

AN UNUSUAL CHARITY

SIR,—The enclosed photograph shows a "charity" of a rather unusual type. These trees, which are to be seen on the road between Guildford, Surrey, and the village of Compton, are lopped at intervals for the purpose of pro-viding fuel-wood for deserving persons in the village.-R. E. F. S., Hawk-hurst, Kent.

A PAX

SIR,—In the early days of the Christian Church the apostolic injunction "to greet one another with a holy kiss" was literally observed. About the middle of the thirteenth century with the increases in congregations the practice became too cumbersome and was found to be more convenient to pass round some object for the worshippers to kiss. This object became known as the pax and in many of the richer churches took the form of an elaborate piece of craftsmanship. In some of the less wealthy churches

a less costly object was used.

At St. Leodegarius, Basford,
Nottingham, the pax consisted of a
piece of polished porphyry. This has
been preserved and the stone can still be seen at the church mounted in one of the reveals of the south door in the position shown in my photograph

is approximately 4 ins. W. Bull, Beeston, Not-The stone is square.tinghamshire.



POLISHED PORPHYRY THE PAX AT BASFORD

See letter: A Pax

MORE CHRISTMAS BOOKS

but not least" is a proverb which has some application to the books specially brought out for Christmas time this year. Among those for children that have come in since Mr. Howard Spring dealt with them in the issue of Country Life for November 26 is The Monster of Widgeon Weir, a new story by M. E. Atkinson (John Lane, 7s. 6d.), about the three Locketts, and full of just the sort of adventure that might be the sort of adventure that might be expected to happen to them. Again they are on the river, and a splendid amount of "messing about in boats" is part of the story. There is Fenella back again among the characters, travelling with a party of amateur strolling players, and there is Jane dreaming about a monster of the Thames like the Loch Ness monster—and here dream comes true and there and her dream comes true and there are some exciting happenings at a local regatta.

The stage certainly plays its part The stage certainty plays its part in books for young people this year, for *The End House*, by Freda C. Bond (Newnes, 5s.), is largely about an exciting caravan holiday when the Lancaster family of boys and girls, who are the principal characters in the story go out acting on village. the story, go out acting on village greens and in village barns, and meet with some very interesting characters. Miss Bond's book is particularly attractive to girls and has a perfectly delightful atmosphere.

Everyone who remembers Miss Everyone who remembers anso Fitt's charming children's story, Jane Squirrel, will be pleased to meet with Betty (Country Life, 7s. 6d.), a book in which many of the same animal characters and all the human characters. ters appear again in the same real country setting of Brierley Farm. This time Lizzie, now become Elizabeth, and Ted are a great deal more important than Jane Squirrel and the other people. A mysterious creature who attacks Farmer Greystone's sheep sheep gives everybody a great deal to think about, but this mystery is happily cleared up at the end. Ted and Elizabeth have splendid times in the woods and fields watching badgers, tickling trout and getting to know all the wild

and young readers of this book will find themselves much more countrywise when they have finished it than they were before.

Another first-rate book which has ecently come to hand is Mystery at Witchend, by Malcolm Saville (Newnes, 7s. 6d.). This may not become a classic in the Wind in the Willows and Black Beauty sense, but it is difficult to imagine a more exciting story of happenings that might occur at the happenings that might occur at the present moment, influenced by the war. The characters are alive, and there is a good deal of excitement which moves to a terrific climax. It is, in a word, one of the best children's books of the year. Sam Does His Stuff, by Dorothy Ann Lovell (Cape, 6s.), is also to be highly recommended, for Sam becomes camera-man to friend Buck, and the photographs he takes prove to be of very much greater takes prove to be of very much greater importance than at first seems possible. Champions in the Making, by Barbara Hector (Lloyd Cole, 5s.), is a girls' school story, nicely written, and about prowess in running.

Long Ears (Dent, 7s. 6d.), the story of a little grey donkey, is by Patricia Lyall. For slightly younger readers comes Suzette's Family, by Harriet Evatt (Newnes, 5s.), a story of a French-Canadian household and a

a French-Canadian household and a little girl refugee from Scotland. It is brightly illustrated, pleasantly written and will, I think, be loved. Very fully illustrated in colour for the people of the lesser ages as well as the older is The Obliging Elephant (Hammond, Hammond, 7s. 6d.), by Brian Grimshaw, which is very good fun, looks like prose and is really written in amusing rhyme. Read aloud I should think it would have the greatest success. Sandy's Seven Tails (Hutchinson, 6s.), by Helen Haywood and Isobel St. Vincent, again illustrated in colour as well as black and white, is a charming story of squirrel life among the tree-tops, and about how poor Granny Squirrel lost her tail, and dear little Tishie Squirrel helped her to get a false one, and brave Sandy fought and overcame the wicked pirate grey squirrels. Jungletown Tales, by C. Nelson (Sylvan Press, 7s. 6d.), with

very amusing illustrations, is a collection of stories about animals who live in Jungletown in the middle of live in Jungletown in the middle of Africa, have a school and all sorts of social life. From the same publishers comes Bumpy's Holiday (5s.), by Biro, the story of a little elephant who scored a great success when he went to a fun fair on his birthday and won a competition at darts. The aircompetition at darts. The air-ninded child will be particularly minded charmed child will be particularly charmed by An Aircrafty Tale (Pitman, 3s.), by S. M. M., the story of a little boy who went to an aircraft factory and was taken up by a plane. It is very suitable for the small boy, and illustrated with real photographs into which clever Dora Shackell has drawn Jon peeping into machinery or climbing out on the wing of an aero-plane in flight. Stubbington Manor (Murray, 5s.) is another story by Lady Gorell about the lovable family of toy

The Adventures of Tiddles (Lloyd Cole, 1s. 6d.), by Joan Morgan, is the story of a naughty hedgehog who would climb on a swan's back against her mother's orders.

A book of a different type is Banana Circus, by Margaret Fosher and Henry Rox (Hammond, Hammond, 7s. 6d.), in which all sorts of amusing figures are made out of bananas—a trumpeter, a contortionist, a fat lady, acrobats. Of course at the present moment the bananas themselves would be the difficulty, but one might over-come that by modelling them in Plasticine. Another book about making thirgs is Out of a Handkerchief, (5s. from the same publishers) by Frances E. Jacobs, which tells you simply and clearly how to make all sorts of amusing things—a dancer, a squirrel, a snow-man, an umbrella, out of a pocket handkerchief.

READERS FOR OLDER

For older people might be mentioned Just a Few Lines (Methuen, 6s.), a really attractive book quite like the pre-war gay book we are accustomed to at Christmastime, illustrations by the never-to-beequalled Fougasse, and very attractive verses by A. W. B. There is a tender human feeling in some of the poems, and many of them deal with war subjects, but the total effect of the book is one of cheer.

The Pick of Punch (Chatto and Windus, 7s. 6d.) is the best things in Punch from July, 1942, to June, 1943, collected in volume form. Scotland Through the Lens (Chapman and Hall, 18s.), a collection of excellent photographs by W. A. Poucher with his letterpress, has reached us. We need letterpress, has reached us. We need to say little more here than it is his work at its best. Sir Richard Livingstone's translation of Thucydides' History of the Peloponnesian War is newly in The World's Classics, and will be a treasure for many readers. For the reader who hunts, has hunted or heres to hunts. has hunted or hopes to hunt, A Tale of Two Brushes (Collins, 6s.), by Mr. A. Henry Higginson, who is as well known as a Master of Fox Hounds as he is as an author, should provide the sort of reading in this time of dearth that the gardener always before the war found in winter-time in seedsmen's catalogues. It describes scenes of the hunting field in America and England before the war, and even during the war.

during the war.

Wings Have We (Muller, 1s. 6d.)
is by Julia Cairns, a collection of
charming little essays and poems
instinct with love for life and
everything beautiful and kindly. A
companion to her earlier volumes and

as pleasing.
This Other Eden (Land, Val Doone, is an epitome of England chiefly compil d from ver fine photopeace and graphs of English scenes of English activities of war.

Perhaps it is powder at of all this jam to mention of England. Wales, Scotle land, war-time edition (B he Schools d and Irerrows, 5s.) which will be of interes many parents, gives a of boarding, private, an schools, details showing eliable list secondary how yocational training can be obtained, and a list of public schools with fees and details of scholaships. By Appointment to



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Than they, to their own country's cause
applied

Gave up for us, and in the giving—died:
Gave freely, gladly, counting not the cost,
Strength, youth, and blood, till life itself was
lost:

All, all gave they, themselves of self bereft, Drinking the gall that sweetness might be left To us who yet in life's full day remain; How shall be best console and heal the pain Of those bereaved who were their kith and kin?

Shall we not search our very souls within, And with all thankfulness our hearts endued, Give—of our charity and gratitude!

F.W.A

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FARMING NOTES

NEW FARM PRICES

HE recent discussion be-HE recent discussion between Mr. Hudson and the farmers has raised in an acute form the question of the profits of farming. It can hardly be disputed that the large arable farmer, well equipped for his business, has been making a good living in the past four years and will continue to make a fair living. will continue to make a fair living, although the increase in his wages bill although the increase in his wages bill is not to be met by increased prices. A small minority have been paying E.P.T. and many more have been surprised at their assessments for income-tax. The most profitable crop the arable farmer could grow was barley, even since the price came under control; 110s. a quarter for the 1943 crop has left a very comfortable margin of profit. The 40 acres I grew has come to just over £1,000. This is a much better return than can be got from wheat. Yet wheat is the priority bread grain. The prospective adjustment for 1944 brings down the barley price to 100s. a quarter, which barley price to 100s. a quarter, which is a generous enough price.

THE wheat price remains at the same basic figure for the year, but some juggling is to be done with the seasonal scale through the month. Something will come off the price immediately after harvest and be added to the New Year prices. This is sensible. A good deal of the wheat threshed during harvest or immediately afterwards comes from large farms which use combine harvesters or possess threshing machines which they have handy for use in the field. If wheat can be threshed straight away and sold immediately, costs are con-siderably reduced as compared with the costs of wheat sold in the New Year which has to bear the cost of ricking, thatching and then threshing ricking, thatching and then threshing as a separate operation. It is most unlikely that the re-adjustment of wheat prices will lead any farmer to cancel an order for a combine harvester if he is lucky enough to be on the approved list of applicants. He will still be better off than the farmer who has to rick his wheat. This price change will keep more money in the change will keep more money in the industry by saving some of the easy profits from combined wheat that have gone to the Exchequer in E.P.T.

THE wisdom of increasing the acreage payment on wheat from the present £3 an acre to £4 an acre and taking a corresponding acre and taking a corresponding amount off the market price seems rather more doubtful. The great drive for extra wheat was made for the 1943 harvest, and then no doubt some wheat was ordered to be grown on land that was unlikely to give a full yield. But for the coming year and succeeding years the farmer should be able to choose his wheat ground with more discretion, and with fairly generates carefules of phosphotic for this care. ous supplies of phosphatic fertilisers there seems less reason now for this device to assist the indifferent crop at the expense of the heavy crop. These acreage payments on wheat, These acteage payments of the property and potatoes are always spoken of as subsidies, which they are not. They are part of the grower's price. But obviously they lend themselves to speedy extinction after the war, leaving the market price to stand alone. For this reason no doubt the Government like the device.

FFSET against the reduction in the barley price there is the increase in the milk price and also the increase in the milk price and also the increase in fat cow prices. Both these have been welcomed as giving some relief where the shoe of labour costs will pinch hardest. Dairying is not a popular way of making a living from farming to-day. Thousands of farms turned over to milk production in the 10 years before this war, not because the farmers or the workers preferred the business, but because it was one of the few lines of production that promised a livelihood. To day arable cropping pays better and many farmers would like to finish with milk production. It may pay them, but it gives rise to endless worries with labour. If there were mer cowmen, or land girls ready to take the cowhouse, it would be possible a rota of regular days con every farm. As it is, the milks are more tied than other workers as although they earn more pay, magnetic and the state of the cowhouse, it would be possible a rota of regular days con every farm. As it is, the milks are more tied than other workers as although they earn more pay, magnetic and the state of the farmer to t they earn more pay, man of the job. The increase re weary the milk price amounting to 1d.
to some extent ease the llon will tion.

SO far as England ar concerned, 0.7d. of in removing anomalies the Wales are is to go avearisen through the standard f tion charge. I understa bears most hardly on fa West and Wales. By ht reducthat this ers in the ting this relief they are nearer to one national price for n r goal of wherever it is produced. Apparent se distant farmers may get more th an extra ar to con-less. The ld. a gallon and those suming centres will go increase, however it may work out in different districts, is back-dated to October I, which is some consolation for what many will consider an inadequate recognition of the dairy farmer's claims.

THE increase of 5s. a cwt. in the price of fat cows also comes into effect without delay. This extra £2 or £3 on the sale of the old cow goes a little way to meet the cost of replacing with a heifer. The difference in values has been as high as £30 a head in the case of ordinary commercial shortborns, which makes if mercial shorthorns, which makes it hard for the farmer to keep his herd hard for the farmer to keep his herd up to the level he would like to maintain. Every little helps, and some help here was needed. Talking over these price changes with a neighbour we agreed that there is much to be said for accepting them with a good grace. The important matter is to keep agriculture on an even keel now and through the immediate post-war years. If prices were allowed to rocket in what we hope is the last year of the war the reaction would be all the more severe for several years. If we have faith in agriculture's ability to do a good job of work ture's ability to do a good job of work for years to come and the nation's recognition of the value of a vigorou agriculture we need not spend sleepagriculture we need not spend sieep-less nights over these price changes. The gain goes to those who need it most and the loss falls on those who can best afford it. I expect to be £250 out of pocket as near as I can reckon. No, not all out of my pocket, because the Chancellor of the Exchequer will share equally. share equally.

ONGRATULATIONS Mansfield on the way he has handled the series of broadcasts called asts called Cattle at the Cross Roads been running since the aut nn. Thes to give a broadcasts were designed lead to local group disci-although the idea was a many parts of the count w one it it seem Some pro-said and sings. The to have caught on well-vocative things have be indeed some controversial important matter is to themselves thinking abo livestock t efficient improvement and the ways of running their harly their dairy cattle. particu ere is much to be learnt from the p fair selec most successful men, and the micro tion of these have been phone with Mr. Mansf their ideas. to stat CINCINNATUS

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20,000 SCOTTISH ACRES SOLD

recent date held at 100 square miles of hshire sporting estates, ad around Rannoch. He 20,000 acres, namely, rkie and Talladt-a-1 20,000 acres, namely, rarkie and Talladt-a-rions, which extend from h in the south to a point inles up Loch Ericht on They carry plenty of deer, and afford good ing. The Gaelic words ithe, meaning "the Glen es," accurately indicate of the setting of the es," accurately indicate of the setting of the here is a grand distant shallion. Corrievarkie is hat it has no road aps reached by motor boat,
miles from Dalwhinnie
Ericht. Alder Forest
estate, and it will be
as containing the cave in as containing the cave in ce Charlie found refuge after the battle of Captain Percy Wallace, John D. Wood and Co., sale. The joint agents earlier sale of 21,500 acres, craganour, another property belong-ing to Colonel Cobbold. That 40-50 stag forest and 600-brace grouse moor, with first-rate loch and river fishing, contain 14,000 acres of forest, sur-rounded by such properties as Atholl and Dunalastair. Colonel Cobbold is willing to consider offers for another, perhaps the best-known of all, of his holdings in Perthshire, about 25,000 acres. The same agents act for him

HEAVY GAME-BAGS

A SCOTTISH correspondent says:
Among the many adverse influences, most of them common to all sporting property earlier during the war, was one that is now happily out of the reckoning. Fears of interference with game by reason of the great Grampians electricity scheme are past, and the group begge are positive. orampans electricity scheme are past, and the game-bags are rapidly recovering their old averages. Within a couple of years, for instance, Rannoch itself, according to the last figures we have, showed 1,183 grouse shot in comparison with 448, the earlier bag. Speaking generally, business in Scottish sportings shows a brighter tendency full of promise for the register. dency, full of promise for the revival of interest in this important and attractive side of life in the Highlands. Good quality sporting land (forest and moor) rules around £1 an acre for very large areas, and at that price it may be classed as that muchvaunted and yet seldom obtainable waunted and yet seldom obtainable investment: a present yield with a prospect of capital appreciation. Contour has special significance in estimating the value of a given acreage in the Highlands, for, though there may be a vast tract, if much of its precipitous rocky mountain-side its value for most preserving in the side of the special process of the special section. value for most purposes is negligible.
One exception to the influence of contour on value occurs to the mind: noorland when land is what is called a "gathering for some water supply English round'

DONNEAD HALL SOLD

DON's AD HALL and 236 acres. haftesbury, were to have and, but changed hands auction. Mr. Leslie H. G. he Yeovil office of Messrs. Waite, c che Yeovil office of Messrs.

Ops and Staff, effected the
client of Messrs. Fox and
house, hesitatingly attriChristopher Wren, was
in COUNTRY LIFE on
3. Other sales by Mr. Waite
those of Downlands, Wamcar Chard, a freehold of ale, to buted nentior Decem! include

20 acres, the joint agents being Messrs. F. L. Mercer and Co.; Paddock House, Sutton Montis, near Yeovil; and other residential properties of about 30 acres. about 30 acres.

Sales by Messrs. Fox and Sons include Kalisan, a freehold bungalow and nearly an acre, at Verwood, Dorset, two miles from Ferndown golf links, for £2,200, by order of an executrix.

Portions of the Silton estate, near Gillingham, in Dorset, have been sold by Messrs. Rawlence and Squarey, for £20,250, farms making high prices, among them the following: £11,700, for the 480 acres of the Manor Farm; and £6,500, for Feltham Farm, 170 acres; and two separate pieces, together 22 acres, £1,300. As usual, nowadays, the growing timber was the subject of valuations, amounting in this instance to £750 in this instance to £750.

A Surrey farm, Skid Hill, at Chelsham, comprising an old-fashioned house constructed in the Kentish style, buildings and four cottages with about 194 acres, has been resold the Merch Leville French and Parkley by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley, and a local firm.

WAR DAMAGE INSURANCE

THE number of properties subject to and charged with war damage levy is just over 13 millions; and in addition, 910,000 payments have been annually made under the scheme covering private chattels; 300,000 payments for business effects; and 160,000 in respect of farm stocks. It is at first sight surprising that so comparatively small a number of private chattel insurers have thought it worth paratrery small a number of private chattel insurers have thought it worth while to protect themselves, but it must be borne in mind that most of them probably regard themselves as sufficiently insured by the provision for free cover up to £300 without for free cover up to £300 without previous notification or any payment of a premium. The insurances, using a non-technical but generally acceptable word for the levy, are transacted through the ordinary fire insurance companies. These companies have doubtless benefited enormously in their normal premium income in consequence of the desire of policyholders to bring fire and similar private. holders to bring fire and similar private insurances up to a level coincident with the amount covered by the levy.

ADEQUACY OF COVER

N the first instance an immense number of insurers took a certain view of war damage levies, to wit, that the levy being at a low per-centage and the benefit beyond doubt, they should have an ample margin When, however, they perof cover. ceived that the war damage quantum ceived that the war damage quantum might be, indeed, was sure to be, compared with the normal fire insurances, they raised their private insurances to the same sum as that covered under the war damage levy. Even so, it is certain that enemy action, resulting in the destruction of possessions that are covered under the business and private chattels schemes, can never be really compensated for. To come to that conclusion most people would only have to look round people would only have to look round people would only have to look round their farms, shops, offices and homes to feel that the things they have acquired for use and ornament mean something that, if lost, cannot be compensated for by any monetary payment however generous. That is inevitable; yet, making every allowance for it, there is no doubt that, on the whole, the protection afforded by the War Damage schemes has had a greatly steadying influence on the public, safeguarding the insured gainst total loss. Arbiter.





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THOMAS BARNES

By Derek Hudson

EASTERN EUROPE

By Josef Hanc

HAVE heard it said that the British newspaper Press is the best in the world, but I do not know enough about the world's Press to think my opinion on the matter worth while. But, whether the British newspaper Press be the finest in the world or not. I think it could be much better and should be

much better. Most papers seem to me merely to fritter away on fluff and confetti a superb daily opportunity.

All the more reason, then, for taking off our hats to those which are excellent and literally of good report. Their stories deserve to be told, but

books telling them well are few and far between. The best I know is the late William Haslam Mills's account of the first hundred years of The Manchester Guardian. A number of weighty anonymous volumes tell the history of The Times, but I should like to see a writer with a little more mercury and a little less lead in his pen telling the story in one volume for the general reader. For the story of *The Times* is a great one and deserves to be widely known. A part of it, told in the lighter manner which I should like to see applied to the whole is to be found in Thomas Barnes of The Times, by Derek Hudson (Cambridge University Press, 10s. 6d.). At the end of the book we are given a selection of Barnes's essays, edited by Harold Child.

THE EIGHTH EDITOR

There were seven editors of The Times before Barnes, but none of them did the work for long. Barnes was the first editor to occupy the chair long enough to give a deep personal impress to the paper. He reigned from 1817 to 1841, and his successor, the great Delane, edited the paper till 1877. These two long editorships stabilised the paper, gave it the position of unchallenged supremacy which it holds to-day. It would be a pity to set up either of these two great editors against the other and to say that The Times owes more to this one than to that. Lord Northcliffe thought, for what this was worth, that Delane was a long way below Barnes, and it must be admitted that to make a thing is more difficult than to maintain it. Barnes made The Times.

Thomas Barnes was a Londoner through and through. His father was a lawyer. He was at Christ's Hospital and Cambridge. On leaving the university he was for some years in the circle of Lamb and Leigh Hunt. The description of him that has come down-"rarely temperate and never methodical"-seems to have erred on the side of mercy. His striking Grecian beauty deteriorated into an elderly waddling obesity.

He had written sporadically for The Times on this and that, and when he was 32 he was offered and accepted the editorship. He mastered his intemperate habits sufficiently to give

the paper the best that was in him. He almost lived on the job. He took a house just across Blackfriars Bridge, hardly five minutes' walk away. He would feed on tripe in the office and have his hair cut there by a compositor. He took over a Times containing four pages of five columns and sold at 7d. He left a paper of eight pages

with six columns on

each.

This change in the face of the paper was not the most important of the changes that Barnes brought about: he changed the status of journalists and journalism. Barnes had not to fight the battle of the bribes.

There was not a paper in England some time before this that not live on the bribes of politicians and others. So far as The Times was concerned, this fight was ended. The paper had clean hands. But it was still tied to an unreasoning support of "As whatever party was in power. "As the first truly responsible and independent editor in English journalism, says Mr. Hudson, "Barnes was involved, nearly every day of his life, in a struggle for freedom of comment that demanded great strength of will." For example, The Times took a strong line over that wretched piece of bungling and stupidity known as "Peterloo" when citizens were sabred in the streets of Manchester.

Barnes won his fight. It was not unknown, even early in his career, for Ministers of the Crown, who had been accustomed to regard journalists as corruptible nonentities, to visit Barnes secretly in his Southwark house upon matters of importance. It has never been shown that Barnes used his growing influence for personal profit. The time was to come when he would not be solicited privately, when a Minister could call him "the most powerful man in England," when he would be consulted about the formation of Ministries and publicly banqueted by the great.

COST OF FREEDOM

These things are worth reading about. We accept too many of our freedoms as though they had fallen ready-made into our laps. They all had to be first won and then maintained, the freedom of the Press with the others. Barnes's was no easy battle. He was assailed even by fellow-journalists whose own essential rights he was fighting for. Cobbett, for example, felt himself at liberty to write of "that cunning old trout The Times, that ranting, canting, trimming old Times, that brazen old slut the stupid Times, and the bloody old Times.

In 1831 Barnes wrote a passage which should be read and re-read to-day: "Unless the people-the people everywhere-come forward and petition, ay, thunder for reform, it is they who abandon an honest Minister -it is not the Minister who betrays the people. But in that case, reform,

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and Minister, and people too, are lost.

I thought of this passage when reading Mr. Josef Hanc's Eastern (Museum Press, 12s. 6d.). Mr. Hanc, who has for many years been in the Czechoslovak diplomatic service, is writing about the time when German influence was steadily, remorselessly, being turned upon the small countries of Eastern Europe. At the time of the Munich crisis, he says, "there were few people in Western Europe among the governing classes who understood the true nature of National Socialism."

"BORED!"

I think Mr. Hanc is wrong about this. Long before Munich, so much authentic and verified evidence concerning National Socialism had been published in this country that no one who read anything could have any doubt whatever concerning its nature. On a later page he speaks, and much more truly this time, of statesmen "bored with the recurrence of prob-lems they wished to ignore." That is more like it, and that is the relevance of the words Barnes wrote more than a hundred years earlier. How were these bored and supine Ministers to be stirred? Where was the irresistible public voice "petitioning-ay, thundering for reform"? It wasn't there; and the people who blame Ministers, as they should be blamed, for their "boredom," should remember how little they themselves did to make the voice of England heard on what they now see to have been the side of truth and wisdom. Barnes is indeed right to remind us that a people cannot shuffle off responsibility for the acts and inaction of its government. We are fond of saying: "Hitler couldn't have lasted a year without the support of his people." Of course he couldn't. Nor could Neville Chamberlain.

Mr. Hanc's book is worth reading, but you will need a tough-fibred mind to hack your way through its oaken diction. Here is a typical sentence: "The constitutional forms in which the regionalisation of power will have to be integrated may vary." It is all written like that, so that one feels after an hour's reading as mentally worn out as one is physically worn out by tramping through ploughed

THE FUTURE

The book considers the position in relation to world history of the States which reach down from the Baltic to the Black Sea, with Germany and Italy pressing upon them from the west and Russia from the east. their present dilemma, and their future hopes. He deals with the Mr. Hanc gives us their past history, historic and ethnic factors which make for division and with the reasonable, economic ingredients of a possible unity. He sets his face sternly against the supposition that after the war this troubled area of the world, this place of hot divisions that has seen the hatching of so many cockatrice's eggs, should be subject to the control of the Great Powers. His ideal is to see "all the nations between Germany, Italy and Russia under one roof, but recognises that it will take a long time to bring this about. "Individual groups may eventually never belong to it and seek their future elsewhere. Yet it can be soundly assumed that for the majority a union represents the most advantageous if not the only

If recent events have not taught us the importance of this buffer of Eastern European States nothing ever will. For a deepening of under-

standingand as an austere exercise in formidable reading-Mr. Hanc's book is to be recommended.

A VOICE THAT IS STILL

THIS little book-Parachute Battalion. Poems by Richard Spender. (Sidgwick and Jackson, 2s. 6d.)—contains ten poems by a young singer who has been killed, with his contemporary Sidney Keyes, in Tunisia. It was a cruel and wasteful stroke that took these two young men before the pen" had gleaned their teeming brain." Spender was not twentytwo, and had not time to find a personal voice or a philosophy for it to range over. But the promise was there, con-tained intact within a sensitivity so acute that it tormented the young poet and made his writing a glorious agony; glorious, because in spite of his effort to express more than he had the technique for, he so obviously found in the effort a rich sense of adventure.

And what he found in the practice of poetry, he found also in life. When, therefore, life and its exercise took him as far as death, he was prepared for that last experience.

If he may go, a man, from this same scene,

One season when the purple and the yellow tree

Splash the still corner with their fountain's song,

Taking a sword against the World for Truth And bearing in his heart, as I have

done, The beauty and the humble dignity that clothe this school

Then it is good that I should go away awhile.

It may be some consolation for those who remain, to recognise how this boy, initiated by the experiences of the last few months of his life, had found a vision and a wisdom that philosophers and mystics, from their respective approaches, have struggled through a lifetime for. He found gentleness, and that ineffable love for life itself, a love so penetrating that it includes individuals and even death itself. So we may leave him reverently, wondering at so much beauty mastered in so short a space, and taking comfort from his own words.

"Who dies? who dies?" We who have read

Let us shut the book gently. "Who dies? A thousand, thousand voices told

Taking me by the elbow and leading

Gently and whispering down the

"He laid me on His shoulder and brought me

(Yes, even me) rejoicing Home." RICHARD CHURCH.

R. OSBERT SITWELL written an introduction to the Collected Poems of W. H. Davies (Cape, 8s. 6d. and 10s. 6d.), which is as much a portrait of the poet as is the striking painting of him by Harold Knight reproduced as a frontispiece. This is what an introduction should be; the poet's work is here for us to appraise; what manner of man he was himself we may guess to some extent from it, but such an introduction completes our knowledge and that again increases our understanding of his poetry. A likeable figure emerges, "a character that was no less remarkable in itself than in the genius it supported and nourished and of which the little blemishes and flaws were singularly endearing." The were singularly endearing. The poems here re-issued occupy nearly 500 pages, pages full of beauty, individuality and a certain robust simplicity. Davies was at one time in his life a tramp; but the wonder is not that a tramp wrote poetry but that such a poet close the life of a that such a poet chose the life of a



Rural Amateur

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Men of Action

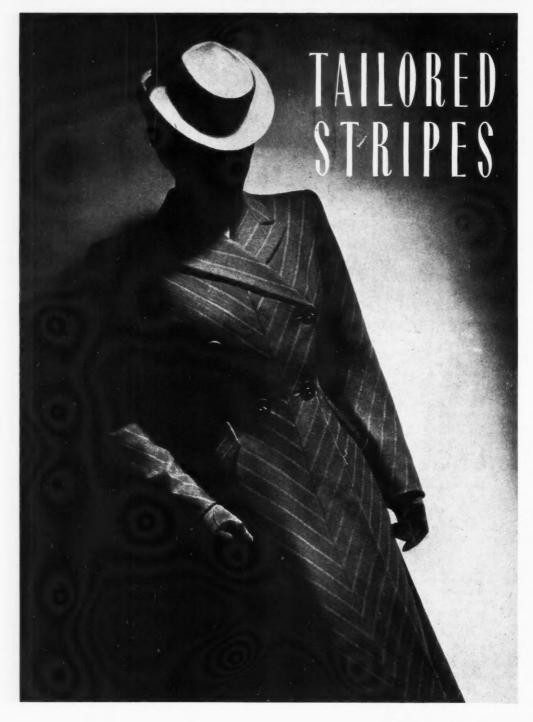
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their chic. They are striking definitely coats for tall, slim people. The plum is felts with curly brims and the neat coiffure on top of the head are absolutely right with them.

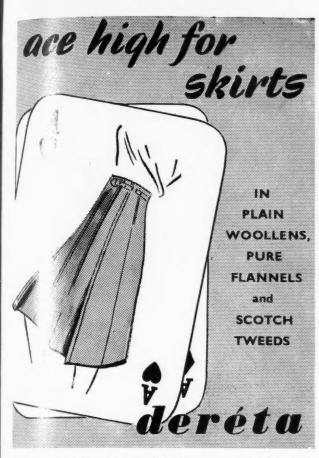
This feeling for neat stripes in neutral colours semphasised again in the first collection spring fabrics and the first showing of summer dresses. Patterns have to be simplified with labour s short and these stripes are easy or machines and man-power. For the summer, the canvas rayons are striped singly or have the double tramline effect in broken white that looks like oyster, and an made up into simple dresses with unpressed pleats in front of the skirt and the plainest of tops They look completely differen from the shirt-waist frocks of the last few years and decidedly smart Favourite colours for the ground are old gold, olive green, cinnamon a deep Madonna blue, dove grey black, and a blue that is brighte than navy. In the "Jersey-de Luxe" collection there is a rayou that looks like linen and has been woven especially for this housenavy with dots as large as a florid in puce, black with emerald dots The blue frock has a cross-ove

OPCOATS in warm, smooth-faced woollens, plain or striped, as firmly woven as a man's worsted suiting, appear in all the collections for mid-winter. We have had these coats in black all through the war and they are still high in favour, very neat, furbished by chunky gold buttons and bright linings. But newer than the blacks are the nut browns and greys striped with beige, rust or plum, the navy blues and blacks with lines in old-gold, oyster or off-white. These coats are generally doublebreasted with two buttons placed side by side on the waistline and two above, more widely spaced. Sometimes there are two only at the waist and deep revers that can be thrown well back to take a frilly jabot or buttoned up to the throat. The fabric is manipulated so that the stripes converge into a chevron effect, as in the Rima model we have photographed, or are used horizontally on a yoke and front panel cut all in one. The rest of the coat is then worked vertically. Other coats have the stripes slanting diagonally to join exactly, by a miracle of craftsmanship, panels with the stripes running across.

All the coats are fitted neatly to the waist and absolutely plain, relying on their clean-cut lines and the play with the stripes for



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folded top and a plain skirt with unpressed pleats set between sling pockets. The black and emerald is cut into a coat with the flapped pockets of a Regency Buck, a white jabot and a black skirt. Both looked fresh as paint and a complete change from the many florals of the last few years.

An old-gold rayon with the white tramline stripes makes up well with plain three-quarter sleeves and unpressed pleats in front of both bodice and skirt. This is a kind of compromise with the dirndl frock, less bunchy but still with a peasant feeling

THESE neat patterns with their clear-cut outline require the

smoothest, sleekest of coiffures. At Harvey Nichols's they tell me that more women are having the hair done up on top of the head even than last year, as they feel it provides just the right finish for the clothes I have been describing which rely on trimness for their chic. These rather severe coiffures suit nearly everyone, but it is imperative that the hair be cut to the right shape, or it will not go up easily into a sleek curl or bang, and will be a nuisance. Provided that the cut is good these coiffures are easy to keep tidy. Even fluffy young girls are having their hair dressed as simply as possible and kept as smooth and sleek as vigorous brushing can make it. Some have loose curls on the shoulder, some page-boy rolls, but the roll tied round the head is still first favourite. At Harvey Nichols's they can still do the oil treatment which helps to keep a glossy, shiny head of hair in perfect condition, as they have good stocks of the necessary ingredients



Pigskin belts from Finnigans

the reconditioning creams for and lotions. The same thing also applies to their shampoos. They have an excellent oil shampoo and a special shampoo with a subtle blending of old and new ingredients to give a gloss. Remember that the hair-brush is still the woman's best tool and the hundred brushes a night rule still holds good.

At night, women are pinning all kinds of orname ts in their coiffures. At the Vaite House there are charming cl ffon butterflies spangled with iridescent sequins. Finnigans s ows red felt geraniums attached to strong hairpins. Worth pins seq ined butterflies right on top c a smooth "bang." Elizabeth Arden shows

ACROSS.

1. The present occasion (two words, 9, 3)

10. Former teetotallers confused (5)11. Anyhow, a motorist must not travel thus at a roundabout (two words, 3, 3)

DOWN. 1. An item that should show the vintage year (7

2. From Brock yesterday; its hard (5) 3. Feeling caused by a short, sl according to W. S. Gilbert (9)

A driver, but not a drover (8)

16. A man suffering from a loss of 3 (9) 17. A missing link or . . . (8) 18. Lever that requires a leg-up (7 20. Sun seer makes sure (7) 22. Frame-up in a studio? (5)

6. Caper (5)

8. Effort (8) 14. Pressing necessity (8)

24. Reminted rupee (5)

25. Much ado about trifles (4)

4. "When Britain first, at heaven's command Arose from out the azure—"

—James Thomson (4)

7. A backward muse gets in with a Communist

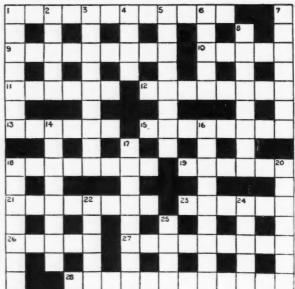
9. Bring together (9)

12. Rumps, etc. (anagr.) (8) 13. It will give you the wink (6) 15. A short compositor told a falsehood (8) 18. Euclid described many a one (8) 19. Part of a young ranger's make-up (6) 21. Interpretation of Scripture (8) 23. Departs post-haste in envelopes (6) 26. Curtails or harbours (5) 27. He calls a spade a sp-sp-spade (9) 28. Whisperings in the cathedral precincts? (two words, 5, 7)

some of the prettiest snoods I have ever seen and enchanting sprays to pin on the corsage of a dark frock. Snoods are more elabora e than ever, braided and spangled, tied with ribbons or pompoms and elaborately latticed, some ruched like a cock's-comb. Among the flowers are striped York and Lancaster roses with cornflowers and pinks, moss rosebuds, mixed posies of auriculas, primulas and gentians, sprays or tuberoses and waxen gardenias. The brightest possible scarves are tied over the hair in the day-time, under the chin with the point of the triangle or the corner of a square streaming down the back. They match up to scarlet and emerald socks, shoes and gloves and are so bright they cannot be missed. These handkerchiefs have cut out the turban. The newest Paisley designs have the motives cut out leaving a good deal of the emerald green or coral red background showing. The design is usually in mixed tones of bracken brown. P. JOYCE REYNOLDS.

CROSSWORD No. 725

Two guineas will be awarded for the first correct solution opened. Solutions (in a closed envelope) must reach "Crossword No. 725, COUNTRY LIFE, 2-10, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," not later than the first post on Thursday, December 23, 1943. NOTE.—This competition does not apply to the United States.



Name (Mr., Mrs., etc.)

SOLUTION TO No. 724. The winner of this Crossword, the clues of which appeared in the issue of December 10, will be announced next week.

ACROSS.—1, Twisted up; 6, Roast; 9, Life of sin; 10, Okapi; 11, Purlieu; 12, Repaint; 13, Tea; 14, Finesse; 17, Smelter; 19, Natural; 22, Enraged; 24, Own; 25, Turns in; 26, Tipples; 29, Choir; 30, Tea for two; 31, Lisle; 32, Minefield. DOWN.—1, Tulip; 2, Infer; 3, Tropics; 4, Dispute; 5, Pancras; 6, Rook pie; 7, A Latin tag; 8, Twittered; 14, Fanatical; 15, Notorious; 16, Sea; 18, Man; 20, Resurge; 21, Long Tom; 22, Entrain; 23, Rope off; 27, Lethe; 28, Sword.

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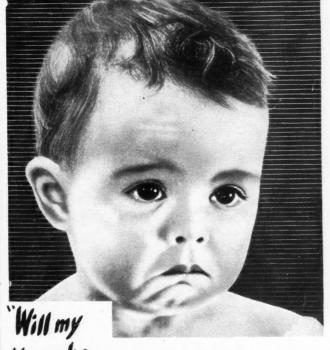
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